

# MOUNT HELICON

## *A School Anthology of Verse*

Bright is the ring of words  
When the right man rings them,  
Fair the fall of songs  
When the singer sings them  
Still they are carolled and said—  
On wings they are carried—  
After the singer is dead  
And the maker buried

—R. L. Stevenson

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# SOME GROUPS OF POEMS

[*Note* — This (or any other) classification must be regarded as merely suggestive. Poems cannot be treated like stamps: some may be classified in a number of ways; others defy any attempts to label them. The only purpose of this list is to provide a framework for some interesting comparisons which may be made, it might be altered or extended indefinitely.]

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# MOUNT HELICON

CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE

## The Passionate Shepherd to his Love

COME live with me and be my Love,  
And we will all the pleasures prove  
That hills and valleys, dale and field,  
And all the craggy mountains yield

There will we sit upon the rocks  
And see the shepherds feed their flocks,  
By shallow rivers, to whose falls  
Melodious birds sing madrigals

There will I make thee beds of roses  
And a thousand fragrant posies,  
A cap of flowers, and a kirtle  
Embroidered all with leaves of myrtle

A gown made of the finest wool,  
Which from our pretty lambs we pull,  
*Fair lined slippers for the cold,*  
With buckles of the purest gold

A belt of straw and ivy buds  
With coral clasps and amber studs  
And if these pleasures may thee move,  
Come live with me and be my Love

## MOUNT HELICON

The shepherd swains shall dance and sing  
 For thy delight each May-morning  
 If these delights thy mind may move,  
 Then live with me and be my Love

## SIR WALTER RALEGH

## The Nymph's Reply

If all the World and Love were young,  
 And truth in every Shepherd's tongue,  
 These pretty pleasures might me move  
 To live with thee, and be thy Love

Time drives the flocks from field to fold,  
 When rivers rage, and rocks grow cold,  
 And Philomel becometh dumb,  
 The rest complain of cares to come

The flowers do fade, and wanton fields,  
 To wayward winter reckoning yields  
 A honey tongue, a heart of gall,  
 Is Fancy's Spring, but Sorrow's Fall

Thy gowns, thy shoes, thy beds of roses,  
 Thy cap, thy kirtle, and thy posies,  
 Soon break! soon wither! soon forgotten!  
 In folly ripe, in reason rotten!

Thy belt of straw and ivy buds,  
 Thy coral clasps and amber studs,  
 All these in me no means can move  
 To come to thee, and be thy Love!

But could Youth last, and Love still heed;  
 Had Joys no date, nor Age no need  
 Then these delights my mind might move  
 To live with thee, and be thy Love!



## EDMUND SPENSER

## The Seasons

## SPRING

So forth issued the Seasons of the year;  
 First, lusty Spring, all dight in leaves of flowers  
 That freshly budded and new blooms did bear,  
 In which a thousand birds had built their bowers  
 That sweetly sung to call forth paramours,  
 And in his hand a javeln he did bear,  
 And on his head (as fit for warlike stoures)  
 A gilt engraven morion he did wear,  
 That as some did him love, so others did him fear

## SUMMER

Then came the jolly Summer, being dight  
 In a thin silken cassock coloured green,  
 That was unlinèd all, to be more light  
 And on his head a garland well beseen  
 He wore, from which as he had chafed been,  
 The sweat did drop, and in his hand he bore  
 A bow and shafts as he in forest green  
 Had hunted late the leopard or the boar  
 And now would bathe his limbs with labour heated sore

## AUTUMN

Then came the Autumn all in yellow clad,  
 As though he joyèd in his plenteous store,  
 Laden with fruits that made him laugh full glad  
 That he had banished hunger, which to fore  
 Had by the belly oft him pinched sore  
 Upon his head a wreath that was enroled  
 With ears of corn of every sort, he bore,  
 And in his hand a sickle he did hold,  
 To reap the ripened fruits the which the earth had  
 yold

## WINTER

Lastly came Winter clothed all in freize,  
 Chattering his teeth for cold that did him chill  
 Whist on his hoary beard his breath did freeze,  
 And the dull drops that from his purpled bill  
 As from a limbeck did adown distil  
 In his right hand a tipped staff he held,  
 With which his feeble steps he stayed still;  
 For he was faint with cold, and weak with eld,  
 That scarce his loosed limbs he able was to weld  
 (*From The Faerie Queen* - )

## Sweet and Sour

SWEET is the rose, but grows upon a brier,  
 Sweet is the juniper, but sharp his bough,  
 Sweet is the eglantine, but pricketh nea,  
 Sweet is the fir-bloom but his branches rough,  
 Sweet is the cypress, but his rind is tough,  
 Sweet is the nut but bitter is his pill  
 Sweet is the broom flower but yet sour enough,  
 And sweet is moly but his root is ill  
 So every sweet with sour is tempered still,  
 That maketh it be coveted the more  
 For easy things that may be got at will,  
 Most sorts of men do set but little store  
 Why then should I account of little pain,  
 That endless pleasure shall unto me gain?

## SIR EDWARD DYER

My Mind to me a Kingdom is  
 My mind to me a kingdom is -  
 Such present joys therein I find,  
 That it excels all other bliss  
 That earth affords or grows by kind

Though much I want which most would have  
Yet still my mind forbids to crave

No princely pomp, no wealthy store,

No force to win the victory

No wily wit to salve a sore

No shape to feed a loving eye—

To none of these I yield as thrall

For why? My mind doth serve for all

I see how plenty surfeits oft,

And hasty climbers soon do fall.

I see that those which are aloft

Mishap doth threaten most of all

They get with toil, they keep with fear;

Such cares my mind could never bear

Content to live thus is my stay

I seek no more than may suffice,

I press to bear no haughty sway

Look what I lack my mind supplies

Lo! thus I triumph like a king,

Content with that my mind doth bring.

Some have too much yet still do crave,

I little have, and seek no more

They are but poor though much they have,

And I am rich with little store

They poor, I rich, they beg I give,

They lack, I leave they pine, I live

I laugh not at another's loss

I grudge not at another's gain,

No worldly waves my mind can toss,

My state at one doth still remain

I fear no foe, I fawn no friend

I loathe not life, nor dread my end.

Some weigh their pleasure by their lust,  
 Their wisdom by their rage of will,  
 Their treasure is their only trust,  
 A cloaked craft their store of skill  
 But all the pleasure that I find  
 Is to maintain a quiet mind

My wealth is health and perfect ease,  
 My conscience clear my chief defence ;  
 I neither seek by bribes to please,  
 Nor by deceit to breed offence  
 Thus do I live, thus will I die,  
 Would all did so as well as I !

## WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

### Fairies' Songs

#### I.

OVER hill, over dale,  
 Thorough bush, thorough brier,  
 Over park, over pale,  
 Thorough flood thorough fire,  
 I do wander everywhere,  
 Swifter than the moon's sphere ;  
 And I serve the fairy queen,  
 To dew her orbs upon the green -  
 The cowslips tall her pensioners be ;  
 In their gold coats spots you see ,  
 Those be rubies, fairy favours,  
 In those freckles live their savours

#### II

You spotted snakes with double tongue,  
 Thorny hedgehogs, be not seen ,

Newts and blind worms, do no wrong,  
 Come not near our fairy queen  
 Philomel, with melody  
 Sing in our sweet lullaby  
 Lulla, lulla, lullaby, lulla, lulla, lullaby,  
 Never harm,  
 Nor spell nor charm,  
 Come our lovely lady nigh  
 So, good-night, with lullaby

Weaving spiders come not here  
 Hence, you long legged spinners, hence !  
 Beetles black, approach not near,  
 Worm nor snail, do no offence  
 Philomel, with melody  
 Sing in our sweet lullaby,  
 Lulla, lulla, lullaby, lulla, lulla, lullaby;  
 Never harm,  
 Nor spell nor charm,  
 Come our lovely lady nigh:  
 So, good night, with lullaby  
*(From A Midsummer Night's Dream)*

## Ariel's Songs

### I.

COME unto these yellow sands,  
 And then take hands  
 Court sied when you have and kissed  
 The wild waves whist,  
 Foot it featly here and there,  
 And, sweet sprites, the burthen bear.  
 Hark, hark !  
*Bow-wow.*  
 The watch dogs bark  
*Bow-wow.*

## MOUNT HELICON

## II

WHERE the bee sucks, there sack I,  
 In a cowslip's bell I lie  
 There I couch when owls do cry.  
 On the bat's back I do fly  
 After summer merrily  
 Merrily, merrily shall I live now  
 Under the blossom that hangs on the bough.

*(From The Tempest')*

## Amiens' Songs

## I

UNDER the greenwood tree,  
 Who loves to lie with me,  
 And turn his merry note  
 Unto the sweet bird's throat,  
 Come hither, come hither, come hither:  
     Here shall he see  
     No enemy,  
 But winter and rough weather.

Who doth ambition shun  
 And loves to lie in the sun  
 Seeking the food he eats  
 And pleased with what he gets  
 Come hither, come hither, come hither;  
     Here shall he see  
     No enemy,  
 But winter and rough weather.

## II

BLOW, blow, thou winter wind,  
 Thou art not so unkind  
 As man's ingratitude,

Thy tooth is not so keen,  
Because thou art not seen,  
Although thy breath be rude

Heigh-ho ! sing, heigh-ho ! unto the green holly ·  
Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly :  
Then, heigh-ho, the holly !  
This life is most jolly

Freeze, freeze, thou bitter sky,  
That dost not bite so nigh  
As benefits forgot  
Though thou the waters warp,  
Thy sting is not so sharp  
As friend remembered not

Heigh-ho ! sing, heigh-ho !, etc

(From 'As You Like It')

## Mercy

THE quality of mercy is not strained,  
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven  
Upon the place beneath it is twice blest,  
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes ;  
'Tis mightiest in the mightiest, it becomes  
The thronèd monarch better than his crown,  
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,  
The attribute to awe and majesty,  
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings ;  
But mercy is above this sceptred sway,  
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,  
It is an attribute to God Himself,  
And earthly power doth then show likest God's  
When mercy seasons justice

(From 'The Merchant of Venice')

## The Seven Ages of Man

ALL the world's a stage,  
 And all the men and women merely players.  
 They have their exits and their entrances,  
 And one man in his time plays many parts,  
 His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,  
 Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms  
 And then the whining school boy, with his satchel  
 And shining morning face, creeping like snail  
 Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,  
 Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad  
 Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,  
 Full of strange oaths and bearded like the pard,  
 Jealous in honour, sudden and quick in quarrel,  
 Seeking the bubble reputation  
 Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice,  
 In fair round belly with good capon lined,  
 With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,  
 Full of wise saws and modern instances,  
 And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts  
 Into the lean and shipp'd pantaloon  
 With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,  
 His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide  
 For his shrunk shank, and his big manly voice,  
 Turning again toward childish treble, pipes  
 And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,  
 That ends this strange eventful history,  
 Is second childishness and mere oblivion,  
 Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything

(From *As You Like It* )

## England

THIS royal throne of kings, this sceptred isle  
 This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,



For he to day that sheds his blood with me  
 Shall be my brother, be he ne'er so vile,  
 This day shall gentle his condition—  
 And gentlemen in England now abed  
 Shall think themselves accursed they were not here,  
 And hold their manhood cheap whiles any speaks  
 That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day

(From 'Henry V')

### Mark Antony's Speech

FRIENDS, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears,  
 I come to bury Cæsar, not to praise him  
 The evil that men do lives after them  
 The good is oft interrèd with their bones,  
 So let it be with Cæsar The noble Brutus  
 Hath told you Cæsar was ambitious,  
 If it were so, it was a grievous fault,  
 And grievously hath Cæsar answered it  
 Here, under leave of Brutus and the rest,—  
 For Brutus is an honourable man  
 So are they all, all honourable men—  
 Come I to speak in Cæsar's funeral  
 He was my friend, faithful and just to me'  
 But Brutus says he was ambitious,  
 And Brutus is an honourable man  
 He hath brought many captives home to Rome,  
 Whose ransoms did the general coffers fill  
 Did this in Cæsar seem ambitious?  
 When that the poor have cried, Cæsar hath wept,  
 Ambition should be made of sterner stuff,  
 Yet Brutus says he was ambitious,  
 And Brutus is an honourable man  
 You all did see that on the Lupercal  
 I thrice presented him a kingly crown,

Which he did thrice refuse was this ambition ?  
Yet Brutus says he was ambitious ,  
And, sure, he is an honourable man  
I speak not to disprove what Brutus spoke,  
But here I am to speak what I do know  
You all did love him once, not without cause  
What cause withholds you then to mourn for him ?  
O judgement ! thou art fled to brutish beasts  
And men have lost their reason Bear with me ,  
My heart is in the coffin there with Cæsar,  
And I must pause till it come back to me

(From Julius Cæsar)

To thine own self be true

    THERE, my blessing with thee !  
And these few precepts in thy memory  
Look thou character Give thy thoughts no tongue  
Nor any unproportioned thought his act  
Be thou familiar, but by no means vulgar ,  
The friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,  
Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel ,  
But do not dull thy palm with entertainment  
Of each new-hatched, unfledged comrade Beware  
Of entrance to a quarrel, but, being in,  
Bear 't that the opposed may beware of thee  
Give every man thine ear, but few thy voice  
Take each man's censure, but reserve thy judgement.  
Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy,  
But not expressed in fancy, rich not gaudy ,  
For the apparel oft proclaims the man,  
And they in France of the best rank and station  
Are most select and generous, chief in that  
Neither a borrower, nor a lender be ,  
For loan oft loses both itself and friend,

And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.  
 This above all to thine own self be true,  
 And it must follow, as the night the day,  
 Thou canst not then be false to any man

(From 'Hamlet')

Let me not to the marriage of true minds

LET me not to the marriage of true minds  
 Admit impediments Love is not love  
 Which alters when it alteration finds,  
 Or bends with the remover to remove :  
 O no ! it is an ever-fixed mark  
 That looks on tempests and is never shaken ;  
 It is the star to every wandering bark,  
 Whose worth's unknown, although his height be taken  
 Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks  
 Within his bending sickle's compass come ,  
 Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
 But bears it out even to the edge of doom.  
 If this be error, and upon me proved,  
 I never writ, nor no man ever loved

(Sonnet CXVI)

## MICHAEL DRAYTON

To the Virginian Voyage

You brave heroic minds,  
 Worthy your country's name ;  
 That honour still pursue,  
 Go, and subdue,  
 Whilst loitering hinds  
 Lurk here at home, with shame,

Britons, you stay too long,  
Quickly aboard bestow you,  
And with a merry gale  
Swell your stretched sail,  
With vows as strong  
As the winds that blow you

Your course securely steer,  
West and by south forth keep,  
Rocks, lee shores, nor shoals,  
When Æolus scowls,  
You need not fear,  
So absolute the deep

And cheerfully at sea  
Success you still entice,  
To get the pearl and gold,  
And ours to hold  
Virginia,  
Earth's only Paradise

Where Nature hath in store  
Fowl venison, and fish,  
And the fruitfullest soil,  
Without your toil,  
Three harvests more  
All greater than your wish

And the ambitious vine  
Crowns with his purple mass  
The cedar reaching high  
To kiss the sky,  
The cypress pine  
And useful sassafras

And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.  
 This above all to thine own self be true,  
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And the ambitious vine  
Crowns with his purple mass  
    The cedar reaching high  
    To kiss the sky,  
The cypress, pine  
And useful sassafras

To whom the Golden Age  
Still Nature's laws doth give,  
    No other cares attend,  
    But them to defend  
From Winter's rage,  
That long there doth not live.

When as the luscious smell  
Of that delicious land,  
    Above the seas that flows,  
    The clear wind throws,  
Your hearts to swell  
Approaching the dear strand,

In kenning of the shore  
(Thanks to God first given)  
    O you the happiest men  
    Be frolic then,  
Let cannons roar  
Fighting the wide heaven.

Thy voyages attend  
Industrious Hakluyt  
Whose reading shall inflame  
Men to seek fame  
And much commend  
To after times thy wit.

## THOMAS CAMPION

## The Man of Life Upright

THE man of life upright  
Whose guiltless heart is free  
From all dishonest deeds,  
Or thought of vanity,

The man whose silent days  
In harmless joys are spent,  
Whom hopes cannot delude  
Nor sorrow discontent—

That man needs neither towers  
Nor armour for defence  
Nor secret vaults to fly  
From thunder's violence

He only can behold  
With unaffrighted eyes  
The horrors of the deep  
And terrors of the skies

Thus scorning all the cares  
That fate or fortune brings  
He makes the heaven his book,  
His wisdom heavenly things



Good thoughts his only friends,  
His wealth a well spent age,  
The earth his sober run  
And quiet pilgrimage

## SIR HENRY WOTTON

## The Happy Life

How happy is he born and taught  
That serveth not another's will,  
Whose armour is his honest thought  
And simple truth his utmost skill,  
Whose passions not his masters are,  
Whose soul is still prepared for death,  
Untied unto the world by care  
Of public fame, or private breath,  
Who envies none that chance doth raise  
Nor vice, who never understood  
How deepest wounds are given by praise,  
Nor rules of state but rules of good,  
Who hath his life from rumours freed,  
Whose conscience is his strong retreat,  
Whose state can neither flatterers feed,  
Nor ruin make oppressors great,  
Who God doth, late and early, pray  
More of His grace than gifts to lend;  
And entertains the harmless day  
With a religious book or friend!  
Thus man is freed from servile bands  
Of hope to rise, or fear to fall—  
Lord of himself, though not of lands—  
And having nothing, yet hath all

## BEN JONSON

## Hymn to Diana

QUEEN and huntress, chaste and fair,  
 Now the sun is laid to sleep,  
 Seated in thy silver chair  
 State in wonted manner keep:  
 Hesperus entreats thy light,  
 Goddess excellently bright.

Earth, let not thy envious shade  
 Dare itself to interpose,  
 Cynthia's shining orb was made  
 Heaven to clear when day did close;  
 Bless us then with wishèd sight,  
 Goddess excellently bright

Lay thy bow of pearl apart,  
 And thy crystal shining quiver;  
 Give unto the flying hart  
 Space to breathe, how short soever,  
 Thou that mak'st a day of night,  
 Goddess excellently bright

## To Celia

DRINK to me only with thine eyes,  
 And I will pledge with mine,  
 Or leave a kiss but in the cup,  
 And I'll not look for wine  
 The thirst that from the soul doth rise,  
 Doth ask a drink divine  
 But might I of Jove's nectar sup,  
 I would not change for thine.

## MOUNT HELICON

I sent thee late a rosy wreath,  
Not so much honouring thee,  
As giving it a hope that there  
It could not withered be  
But thou thereon didst only breathe,  
And sent'st it back to me  
Since when it grows, and smells, I swear,  
Not of itself, but thee

## ROBERT HERRICK

## To Daffodils

FAIR daffodils, we weep to see  
You haste away so soon,  
As yet the early-rising sun  
Has not attained its noon.

Stay, stay  
Until the hasting day  
Has run  
But to the even-song;  
And having prayed together, we  
Will go with you along

We have short time to stay as you,  
We have as short a spring,  
As quick a growth to meet decay,  
As you or anything

We die  
As your hours do, and dry  
Away,  
Like to the summer's rain,  
Or as the pearls of morning dew,  
Ne'er to be found again

## To Blossoms

FAIR pledges of a fruitful tree,  
Why do ye fall so fast?  
Your date is not so past  
But you may stay yet here awhile  
To blush and gently smile,  
And go at last

What! were ye born to be  
An hour or half's delight,  
And so to bid good-night?  
Twas pity Nature brought ye forth  
Merely to show your worth,  
And lose you quite.

But you are lovely leaves, where we  
May read how soon things have  
Their end, though ne'er so brave;  
And after they have shown their pride,  
Like you awhile, they glide  
Into the grave

## GEORGE HERBERT

## Virtue

SWEET day! so cool, so calm, so bright,  
The bridal of the earth and sky,  
The dew shall weep thy fall to night,  
For thou must die

Sweet rose! whose angry hue and brave  
Bids the rash gazer wipe his eye,  
Thy root is ever in the grave,  
And thou must die

Sweet spring! full of sweet days and roses,  
A box where sweets compacted lie  
My music shows ye have your closes,  
And all must die

Only a sweet and virtuous soul,  
Like seasoned timber, never gives,  
But, though the whole world turn to coal,  
Then chiefly lives

### JAMES SHIRLEY

#### Death the Leveller

THE glories of our blood and state  
Are shadows, not substantial things.  
There is no armour against fate,  
Death lays his icy hand on kings  
Sceptre and crown  
Must tumble down  
And in the dust be equal made  
With the poor crooked scythe and spade

Some men with swords may reap the field,  
And plant fresh laurels where they kill  
But their strong nerves at last must yield,  
They tame but one another still  
Early or late  
They stoop to fate,  
And must give up their murmuring breath  
When they, poor captives, creep to death

The garlands wither on your brow,  
Then boast no more your mighty deeds  
Upon Death's purple altar now  
See where the victor victim bleeds

Your heads must come  
To the cold tomb,  
Only the actions of the just  
Smell sweet and blossom in their dust

## JOHN MILTON

## An Epitaph on Shakespeare

WHAT needs my Shakespeare for his honoured bones  
The labour of an age in piled stones?  
Or that his hallowed reliques should be hid  
Under a starry-pointing pyramid?  
Dear son of Memory, great heir of Fame,  
What needst thou such weak witness of thy name?  
Thou in our wonder and astonishment  
Hast built thyself a live-long monument  
For whilst to the shame of slow-endeavouring art  
Thy easy numbers flow, and that each heart  
Hath from the leaves of thy unvalued book  
Those Delphic lines with deep impression took,  
Then thou, our fancy of itself bereaving,  
Dost make us marble with too much conceiving,  
And so sepulchred in such pomp dost lie,  
That kings for such a tomb would wish to die

## On his Blindness

WHEN I consider how my light is spent  
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,  
And that one talent which is death to hide,  
Lodged with me useless, though my soul more bent  
To serve therewith my Maker and present  
My true account, lest He returning chide;

'Doth God exact day labour, light denied?'  
 I fondly ask, but Patience, to prevent  
 That murmur, soon replies God doth not need  
 Either man's work or His own gifts, who best  
 Bear His mild yoke, they serve Him best His state  
 Is kingly thousands at His bidding speed  
 And post o'er land and ocean without rest,  
 They also serve who only stand and wait'

### Fame

ALAS! what boots it with incessant care  
 To tend the homely slighted shepherd's trade,  
 And strictly meditate the thankless Muse?  
 Were it not better done as others use,  
 To sport with Amaryllus in the shade,  
 Or with the tangles of Neæra's hair?  
 Fame is the spur that the clear spirit doth raise  
 (That last infirmity of noble mind)  
 To scorn delights and live laborious days,  
 But the fair guerdon when we hope to find,  
 And think to burst out into sudden blaze,  
 Comes the blind Fury with the abhorred shears,  
 And slits the thin spun life 'But not the praise,'  
 Phoebus replied and touched my trembling ears,  
 'Fame is no plant that grows on mortal soil,  
 Nor in the glist'ning foil  
 Set off to the world nor in broad rumour lies,  
 But lives and spreads aloft by those pure eyes,  
 And perfect witness of all judging Jove,  
 As he pronounces lastly on each deed,  
 Of so much fame in heav'n expect thy meed'

(From *Lycidas*)

## The Garden of Eden

In this pleasant soil  
His far more pleasant garden God ordained ;  
Out of the fertile ground He caused to grow  
All trees of noblest kind for sight, smell, taste ;  
And all amid them stood the Tree of Life,  
High eminent, blooming ambrosial fruit  
Of vegetable gold ; and next to Life  
Our death, the Tree of Knowledge, grew fast by,  
Knowledge of good bought dear by knowing ill.  
Southward through Eden went a river large,  
Nor changed his course, but through the shaggy hill  
Passed underneath ingulfed ; for God had thrown  
That mountain as His garden mould, high raised  
Upon the rapid current, which, through veins  
Of porous earth with kindly thirst up drawn,  
Rose a fresh fountain, and with many a rill  
Watered the garden, thence united fell  
Down the steep glade, and met the nether flood,  
Which from his darksome passage now appears ;  
And now divided into four main streams,  
Runs diverse, wand'ring many a famous realm  
And country, whereof here needs no account ;  
But rather to tell how, if art could tell,  
How from that sapphire fount the crisped brooks,  
Rolling on orient pearl and sands of gold,  
With mazy error under pendent shades  
*Ran nectar, visiting each plant, and fed*  
Flow'rs worthy of Paradise, which not rice art  
In beds and curious knots, but nature boon  
Poured forth profuse on hill, and dale, and plain,  
Both where the morning sun first warmly smote  
The open field, and where the unpierced shade  
Imbrowned the noontide bow'rs. Thus was this place



Doth God exact day labour light denied ?  
 I fondly ask but Patience to prevent  
 That murmur soon replies God doth not need  
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Rose a fresh fountain, and with many a rill  
Watered the garden , thence united fell  
Down the steep glade, and met the nether flood,  
Which from his darksome passage now appears ,  
And now divided into four main streams,  
Runs diverse, wand'ring many a famous realm  
And country, whereof here needs no account ,  
But rather to tell how, if art could tell,  
How from that sapphire fount the crisped brooks,  
Rolling on orient pearl and sands of gold,  
With mazy error under pendent shades  
*Ran nectar, visiting each plant, and fed*  
Flow'rs worthy of Paradise, which not nice art  
In beds and curious knots, but nature boon  
Poured forth profuse on hill, and dale, and plain,  
Both where the morning sun first warmly smote  
The open field, and where the unpierced shade  
Imbrowned the noontide bow'rs    Thus was this place

A happy rural seat of various view ·  
 Groves whose rich trees wept odorous gums and balm,  
 Others whose fruit, burnished with golden rind,  
 Hung amiable, Hesperian fables true,  
 If true, here only, and of delicious taste  
 Betwixt them lawns, or level downs, and flocks  
 Grazing the tender herb, were interposed,  
 Or palmy hillock, or the flow'ry lap  
 Of some irriguous valley spread her store,  
 Flowers of all hue, and without thorn the rose ·  
 Another side, umbrageous grots and caves  
 Of cool recess, o'er which the mantling vine  
 Lays forth her purple grape, and gently creeps  
 Luxuriant meanwhile murmuring waters fall  
 Down the slope hills, dispersed, or in a lake,  
 That to the fringed bank with myrtle crowned  
 Her crystal mirror holds, unite their streams  
 The birds their choir apply ; airs, vernal airs,  
 Breathing the smell of field and grove, attune  
 The trembling leaves, while universal Pan,  
 Knit with the Graces and the Hours in dance,  
 Led on th' eternal Spring

(From 'Paradise Lost')

### Speech of Eve to Adam

SWEET is the breath of Morn, her rising sweet,  
 With charm of earliest birds pleasant the sun,  
 When first on this delightful land he spreads  
 His orient beams, on herb, tree, fruit, and flower,  
 Glist'ning with dew, fragrant the fertile earth  
 After soft showers, and sweet the coming on  
 Of grateful evening mild, then silent night,  
 With this her solemn bird and this fair moon,  
 And these the gems of heav'n, her starry train

But neither breath of Morn when she ascends  
With charm of earliest birds, nor rising sun  
On this delightful land, nor herb, fruit, flower,  
Glist'ring with dew, nor fragrance after showers,  
Nor grateful evening mild, nor silent night,  
With this her solemn bird, nor walk by moon,  
Or glittering starlight, without thee is sweet

(From 'Paradise Lost')

## The Death of Samson

### *A Messenger Speaks*

OCCASIONS drew me early to this city,  
And as the gates I entered with sunrise,  
The morning trumpets festival proclaimed  
Through each high street Little I had dispatched,  
When all abroad was rumoured, that this day  
Samson should be brought forth to show the people,  
Proof of his mighty strength in feats and games,  
I sorrowed at his captive state, but minded  
Not to be absent at that spectacle  
The building was a spacious theatre,  
Half round, on two main pillars vaulted high,  
With seats, where all the lords and each degree  
Of sort might sit in order to behold,  
The other side was open where the throng  
On banks and scaffolds under sky might stand;  
I among these aloof obscurely stood  
The feast and noon grew high, and sacrifice  
Had filled their hearts with mirth, high cheer, and  
wine,  
When to their sports they turned Immediately  
Was Samson as a public servant brought,  
In their state livery clad, before him pipes  
And timbrels, on each side went armed guards,

A happy rural seat of various view •  
 Groves whose rich trees wept odorous gums and balm,  
 Others whose fruit, burnished with golden rind,  
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 And these the gems of heav'n, her starry train

Lords, ladies, captains, counsellors, or priests  
Their choice nobility and flower, not only  
Of this, but each Philistian city round,  
Met from all parts to solemnize this feast  
Samson, with these immixed, inevitably  
Pulled down the same destruction on himself

(From 'Samson Agonistes')

## SIR JOHN SUCKLING

### A Ballad upon a Wedding

I TELL thee, Dick, where I have been,  
Where I the rarest things have seen  
O, things without compare!  
Such sights again cannot be found  
In any place on English ground  
Be it at wake or fair

At Charing Cross, hard by the way,  
Where we (thou know'st) do sell our hay,  
There is a house with stairs,  
And there did I see, coming down,  
Such folks as are not in our town,  
Forty at least, in pairs

Among the rest, one pest'lent fine  
(His beard no bigger, tho', than thine)  
Walked on before the rest  
Our landlord looks like nothing to him,  
The King (God bless him) 't would undo him,  
Should he go still so drest

Both horse and foot, before him and behind  
Archers, and slingers, cataphracts, and spears.  
At sight of him the people with a shout  
Rifted the air, clamouring their god with praise,  
Who had made their dreadful enemy their thrall.  
He patient, but undaunted, where they led him,  
Came to the place, and what was set before him,  
Which without help of eye might be assayed,  
To heave, pull, draw, or break, he still performed,  
All with incredible stupendous force,  
None daring to appear antagonist  
At length, for intermission sake, they led him  
Between the pillars, he his guide requested,  
For so from such as nearer stood we heard,  
As over tired, to let him lean awhile  
With both his arms on those two massy pillars,  
That to the arched roof gave main support  
He, unsuspecting, led him, which when Samson  
Felt in his arms, with head awhile inclined,  
And eyes fast fixed he stood, as one who prayed,  
Or some great matter in his mind revolved  
At last, with head erect, thus cried aloud  
' Hitherto lords, what your commands imposed  
I have performed, as reason was, obeying,  
Not without wonder or delight beheld  
Now of my own accord such other trial  
I mean to show you of my strength, yet greater,  
As with amaze shall strike all who behold '  
Thus uttered, straining all his nerves he bowed  
As with the force of winds and waters pent,  
When mountains tremble, those two massy pillars  
With horrible convulsion to and fro  
He tugged, he shook, till down they came, and drew  
The whole roof after them, with burst of thunder,  
Upon the heads of all who sat beneath,

Lords, ladies, captains, counsellors, or priests  
Their choice nobility and flower, not only  
Of this, but each Philistian city round,  
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## MOUNT HELICON

But wot you what? the youth was going  
To make an end of all his wooing,

The parson for him stayed  
Yet by his leave (for all his haste)  
He did not so much wish all past  
(Perchance) as did the maid

The maid (and thereby hangs a tale)  
For such a maid no Whitsun ale  
Could ever yet produce,  
No grape, that's kindly ripe, could be  
So round, so plump, so soft as she,  
Nor half so full of juice

Her finger was so small, the ring  
Would not stay on, which they did bring,  
It was too wide a peck  
And to say truth (for out it must)  
It looked like the great collar (just)  
About our young colt's neck

Her feet beneath her petticoat,  
Like little mice stole in and out,  
As if they feared the light  
But O she dances such a way!  
No sun upon an Easter-day  
Is half so fine a sight

Her cheeks so rare a white was on,  
No daisy makes comparison  
(Who sees them is undone)  
For streaks of red were mingled there,  
Such as are in a Catharine pear  
The side that's next the sun

Her lips were red, and one was thin,  
Compared to that was next her chin  
(Some bee had stung it newly) ,  
But, Dick, her eyes so guard her face ,  
I durst no more upon them gaze  
Than on the sun in July

Just in the nick the cook knocked thrice,  
And all the waiters in a trice  
His summons did obey ,  
Each serving-man, with dish in hand,  
Marched boldly up like our trained band,  
Presented, and away

When all the meat was on the table  
What man of knive or teeth was able  
To stay to be entreated ?  
And thus the very reason was  
Before the parson could say grace,  
The company was seated

Now hats fly off, and youths carouse ,  
Healts first go round, and then the house,  
The brides came thick and thick  
And when t was named another s health,  
Perhaps he made it hers by stealth ,  
And who could help it, Dick ?

On the sudden up they rise and dance ;  
Then sit again, and sigh, and glance ,  
Then dance again and kiss  
Thus several ways the time did pass,  
Whilst every woman wished her place,  
And every man wished his

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Where He the huge sea-monsters wracks,  
That lift the deep upon their backs,  
Unto an isle so long unknown,  
And yet far kinder than our own?  
He lands us on a grassy stage,  
Safe from the storms, and prelate's rage:  
He gave us this eternal Spring  
Which here enamels everything,  
And sends the fowls to us in care  
On daily visits through the air  
He hangs in shades the orange bright  
Like golden lamps in a green night,  
And does in the pomegranates close  
Jewels more rich than Ormus shows  
He makes the figs our mouths to meet  
And throws the melons at our feet,  
But apples plants of such a price,  
No tree could ever bear them twice  
With cedars chosen by His hand  
From Lebanon He stores the land,  
And makes the hollow seas that roar  
Proclaim the ambergris on shore  
He cast (of which we rather boast)  
The Gospel's pearl upon our coast,  
And in these rocks for us did frame  
A temple where to sound His name  
Oh! let our voice His praise exalt  
Till it arrive at Heaven's vault  
Which thence (perhaps) rebounding may  
Echo beyond the Mexique bay!  
—Thus sung they in the English boat  
A holy and a cheerful note  
And all the way, to guide their chime,  
With falling oars they kept the time

## RICHARD CRASHAW

## The Shepherds' Song

WE saw thee in thy balmy nest,  
 Young dawn of our eternal day ;  
 We saw thine eyes break from the east,  
 And chase the trembling shades away  
 We saw thee, and we blessed the sight ;  
 We saw thee by thine own sweet light

Poor world, said I, what wilt thou do  
 To entertain this starry stranger ?  
 Is this the best thou canst bestow—  
 A cold and not too cleanly manger ?  
 Contend, the powers of heaven and earth,  
 To fit a bed for this huge birth

Proud world, said I, cease your contest,  
 And let the mighty babe alone,  
 The phoenix builds the phoenix' nest,  
 Love's architecture is his own  
 The Babe whose birth embraves this morn,  
 Made His own bed ere He was born

(From 'A Hymn of the Nativity')

## ANDREW MARVELL

## Song of the Emigrants in Bermuda

WHERE the remote Bermudas ride  
 In the ocean's bosom unespied  
 From a small boat that rowed along  
 The listening winds received this song  
 'What should we do but sing His praise  
 That led us through the watery maze

The trumpet's loud clangor  
Excites us to arms,  
With shrill notes of anger  
And mortal alarms  
The double double double beat  
Of the thundering drum  
Cries 'Hark! the foes come,  
Charge, charge, 'tis too late to retreat!'

The soft complaining flute  
In dying notes discovers  
The woes of hopeless lovers,  
Whose dirge is whispered by the warbling lute.

Sharp violins proclaim  
Their jealous pangs and desperation,  
Fury, frantic indignation  
Depth of pains, and height of passion  
For the fair disdainful dame

But oh! what art can teach,  
What human voice can reach  
The sacred organ's praise?  
Notes inspiring holy love,  
Notes that wing their heavenly ways  
To mend the choirs above

Orpheus could lead the savage race,  
And trees unrooted left their place  
Sequacious of the lyre  
But bright Cecilia raised the wonder higher  
When to her Organ vocal breath was given  
An Angel heard, and straight appeared—  
Mistaking Earth for Heaven

## MOUNT HELICON

JOHN DRYDEN

## On Milton

THREE Poets, in three distant Ages born,  
 Greece, Italy, and England did adorn  
 The first, in loftiness of thought surpassed,  
 The next, in majesty, in both, the last  
 The force of Nature could no further go  
 To make a Third, she joined the former Two

## Song for St. Cecilia's Day, 1687

FROM Harmony, from heavenly Harmony

Thus universal frame began

When Nature underneath a heap

Of jarring atoms lay

And could not heave her head,

The tuneful voice was heard from high,

Anse, ye more than dead!

Then cold and hot and moist and dry

In order to their stations leap,

And Music's power obey

From harmony, from heavenly harmony

Thus universal frame began

From harmony to harmony

Through all the compass of the notes it ran,

The diapason closing full in Man

What passion cannot Music raise and quell?

When Jubal struck the chorded shell

His listening brethren stood around,

And, wondering, on their faces fell

To worship that celestial sound

Less than a god they thought there could not dwell

Within the hollow of that shell

That spake so sweetly and so well

What passion cannot Music raise and quell.

The time shall come, when, free as seas or wind,  
 Unbounded Thames shall flow for all mankind  
 Whole nations enter with each swelling tide,  
 And seas but join the regions they divide  
 Earth's distant ends our glory shall behold,  
 And the new world launch forth to seek the old

(From ' Windsor Forest ')

### Character of Atticus

PEACE to all such ! but were there one whose fires  
 True genius kindles, and fair fame inspires ,  
 Blest with each talent and each art to please  
 And born to write, converse, and live with ease  
 Should such a man, too fond to rule alone,  
 Bear, like the Turk, no brother near the throne,  
 View him with scornful, yet with jealous eyes,  
 And hate for arts that caused himself to rise ,  
 Damn with faint praise, assent with civil leer,  
 And without sneering, teach the rest to sneer ,  
 Willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike,  
 Just hint a fault, and hesitate dislike ,  
 Alike reserved to blame, or to commend,  
 A timorous foe, and a suspicious friend ,  
 Dreading ev'n fools, by flatterers besieged,  
 And so obliging that he ne'er obliged ,  
 Like Cato, give his little senate laws,  
 And sit attentive to his own applause ,  
 While wits and templars every sentence raise,  
 And wonder with a foolish face of praise —  
 Who but must laugh if such a man there be ?  
 Who would not weep, if Atticus were he ?

(From the ' Epistle to Dr Arbuthnot ')



The swam in barren deserts with surprise  
 Sees lilies spring, and sudden verdure rise ;  
 And starts, amidst the thirsty wilds to hear  
 New falls of water murm'ring in his ear  
 On rifted rocks, the dragon's late abodes,  
 The green reed trembles, and the bulrush nods  
 Waste sandy valleys, once perplexed with thorn,  
 The spiry fir and shapely box adorn  
 To leafless shrubs the flow'ring palms succeed,  
 And od'rous myrtle to the noisome weed  
 The lambs with wolves shall graze the verdant mead,  
 And boys in flow'ry bands the tiger lead,  
 The steer and lion at one crib shall meet,  
 And harmless serpents heh the pilgrim's feet.  
 The smiling infant in his hand shall take  
 The crested basilisk and speckled snake,  
 Pleased, the green lustre of the scales survey,  
 And with their forky tongues shall innocently play.

*(From 'The Messiah')*

### Thy Trees, Fair Windsor

THY trees, fair Windsor! now shall leave their woods,  
 And half thy forests rush into thy floods,  
 Bear Britain's thunder, and her cross display,  
 To the bright regions of the rising day,  
 Tempt icy seas, where scarce the waters roll,  
 Where clearer flames glow round the frozen pole :  
 Or under southern skies exalt their sails,  
 Led by new stars, and borne by spicy gales !  
 For me the balm shall bleed, and amber flow,  
 The coral redden, and the ruby glow,  
 The pearly shell its lucid globe unfold,  
 And Phœbus warm the ripening ore to gold

The swain in barren deserts with surprise  
 Sees lilies spring, and sudden verdure rise,  
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(From the *Epistle to Dr Arbuthnot* )

## THOMAS GRAY

## Elegy written in a Country Churchyard

THE curfew tolls the knell of parting day,  
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,  
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,  
And leaves the world to darkness and to me

Now fades the glimmering landscape on the sight,  
And all the air a solemn stillness holds,  
Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight,  
And drowsy tinklings lull the distant folds,

Save that from yonder ivy-mantled tower  
The moping owl does to the moon complain  
Of such as, wand'ring near her secret bower,  
Molest her ancient solitary reign

Beneath those rugged elms, that yew-tree's shade,  
Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap,  
Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,  
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep

The breezy call of incense-breathing morn,  
The swallow twitt'ring from the straw-built shed,  
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,  
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,  
Or busy housewife ply her evening care,  
No children run to lisp their sire's return,  
Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share

Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield,  
Their furrow oft the stubborn glebe has broke,  
How jocund did they drive their team afield!  
How bowed the woods beneath their sturdy stroke!

Let not Ambition mock their useful toil,  
Their homely joys and destiny obscure;  
Nor Grandeur hear, with a disdainful smile,  
The short and simple annals of the poor

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
Awaits alike the inevitable hour,  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave

Nor you, ye Proud, impute to these the fault,  
If Mem'ry o'er their tomb no trophies raise,  
Where thro' the long drawn aisles and fretted vault  
The pealing anthem swells the note of praise

Can storied urn or animated bust  
Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath?  
Can Honour's voice provoke the silent dust,  
Or Flattery soothe the dull cold ear of Death?

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid  
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire;  
Hands, that the rod of empire might have swayed,  
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre

But Knowledge to their eyes her ample page  
Rich with the spoils of time did ne'er unroll;  
Chill Penury repressed their noble rage,  
And froze the genial current of the soul.

Full many a gem, of purest ray serene,  
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear ;  
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,  
And waste its sweetness on the desert air

Some village Hampden, that with dauntless breast  
The little tyrant of his fields withstood ,  
Some mute inglorious Milton here may rest,  
Some Cromwell guiltless of his country's blood

Th' applause of list'ning senates to command,  
The threats of pain and ruin to despise,  
To scatter plenty o'er a smiling land,  
And read their history in a nation's eyes,

Their lot forbade , nor circumscribed alone  
Their growing virtues, but their crimes confined .  
Forbade to wade through slaughter to a throne,  
And shut the gates of mercy on mankind,

The struggling pangs of conscious truth to hide,  
To quench the blushes of ingenuous shame,  
Or heap the shrine of Luxury and Pride  
With incense kindled at the Muse's flame.

Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife  
Their sober wishes never learned to stray ,  
Along the cool sequestered vale of life  
They kept the noiseless tenor of their way

Yet ev n these bones from insult to protect  
Some frail memorial still erected nigh,  
With uncouth rhymes and shapeless sculpture decked,  
Implores the passing tribute of a sigh

Their name, their years, spelt by th' unlettered Muse,  
The place of fane and elegy supply,  
And many a holy text around she strews,  
That teach the rustic moralist to die

For who to dumb Forgetfulness a prey  
This pleasing anxious being e'er resigned,  
Left the warm precincts of the cheerful day,  
Nor cast one longing lingering look behind?

On some fond breast the parting soul relies  
Some pious drops the closing eye requires,  
Ev'n from the tomb the voice of Nature cries,  
Ev'n in our ashes live their wonted fires

For thee, who mindful of th' unhonoured Dead  
Dost in these lines their artless tale relate,  
If chance, by lonely Contemplation led,  
Some kindred spirit shall inquire thy fate,

Haply some hoary-headed swain may say,  
'Oft have we seen him at the peep of dawn  
Brushing with hasty steps the dews away  
To meet the sun upon the upland lawn

'There at the foot of yonder nodding beech,  
That wreathes its old fantastic roots so high,  
His listless length at noontide would he stretch,  
And pore upon the brook that babbles by

'Hard by yon wood, now smiling as in scorn,  
Mutt'ring his wayward fancies he would rove,  
Now drooping, woeful wan, like one forlorn,  
Or crazed with care, or crossed in hopeless love

' One morn I missed him on the customary hill,  
 Along the heath, and near his fav'rite tree,  
 Another came, nor yet beside the rill,  
 Nor up the lawn, nor at the wood was he;

' The next with dirges due in sad array  
 Slow thro' the church-way path we saw him borne.  
 Approach and read (for thou canst read) the lay  
 Graved on the stone beneath yon aged thorn.'

### THE EPITAPH

*Here rests his head upon the lap of Earth,  
 A Youth to Fortune and to Fame unknown;  
 Fair Science frowned not on his humble birth,  
 And Melancholy marked him for her own*

*Large was his bounty, and his soul sincere,  
 Heav'n did a recompense as largely send;  
 He gave to Mis'ry all he had, a tear,  
 He gain'd from Heav'n (twas all he wished) a friend*

*No farther seek his merits to disclose,  
 Or draw his frailties from their dread abode  
 (There they alike in trembling hope repose),  
 The bosom of his Father and his God*

### WILLIAM COLLINS

#### Ode

How sleep the brave, who sink to rest  
 By all their country's wishes blessed!  
 When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,  
 Returns to deck their hallowed mould,  
 She there shall dress a sweeter sod  
 Than Fancy's feet have ever trod



By fairy hands their knell is rung ;  
By forms unseen their dirge is sung ,  
There Honour comes, a pilgrim gray,  
To bless the turf that wraps their clay ;  
And Freedom shall a while repair,  
To dwell a weeping hermit there !

### Dirge for Fidele

To fair Fidele's grassy tomb  
Soft maids and village lunds shall bring  
Each opening sweet of earliest bloom,  
And rifle all the breathing Spring  
No wailing ghost shall dare appear  
To vex with shneks this quiet grove :  
But shepherd lads assemble here,  
And melting virgins own their love  
No withered witch shall here be seen ;  
No goblins lead their nightly crew  
The female fays shall haunt the green,  
And dress thy grave with pearly dew !  
The redbreast oft at evening hours  
Shall kindly lend his little aid ,  
With hoary moss, and gathered flowers,  
To deck the ground where thou art laid.  
When howling wmds, and beating rain,  
In tempests shake the sylvan cell ,  
Or 'midst the chase on every plain,  
The tender thought on thee shall dwell  
Each lonely scene shall thee restore,  
For thee the tear be duly shed ,  
Beloved till life can charm no more,  
And mourned till Pity's self be dead

## OLIVER GOLDSMITH

An Elegy on that glory of her sex, Mrs. Mary  
Blaise

Good people all, with one accord,  
Lament for Madam Blaise,  
Who never wanted a good word—  
From those who spoke her praise

The needy seldom passed her door,  
And always found her kind,  
She freely lent to all the poor—  
Who left a pledge behind

She strove the neighbourhood to please  
With manners wondrous winning,  
And never followed wicked ways—  
Unless when she was sinning

At church, in silks and satins new,  
With hoops of monstrous size,  
She never slumbered in her pew—  
But when she shut her eyes

Her love was sought, I do aver,  
By twenty beaux and more,  
The king himself has followed her—  
When she has walked before

But now, her wealth and finery fled  
Her hangers on cut short all  
The doctors found, when she was dead,  
Her last disorder mortal

Let us lament, in sorrow sore—  
For Kent Street well may say,  
That, had she lived a twelvemonth more,  
She had not died to day

## The Village Preacher

NEAR yonder copse, where once the garden smiled,  
And still where many a garden flower grows wild  
There, where a few torn shrubs the place disclose,  
The village preacher's modest mansion rose  
A man he was to all the country dear,  
And passing rich with forty pounds a year;  
Remote from towns he ran his godly race,  
Nor e'er had changed, nor wished to change, his place,  
Unpractised he to fawn, or seek for power,  
By doctrines fashioned to the varying hour,  
Far other aims his heart had learned to prize,  
More skilled to raise the wretched than to rise  
His house was known to all the vagrant train,  
He chid their wanderings, but relieved their pain,  
The long-remembered beggar was his guest,  
Whose beard descending swept his aged breast,  
The ruined spendthrift, now no longer proud,  
Claimed kindred there, and had his claims allowed,  
The broken soldier, kindly bade to stay,  
Sat by his fire, and talked the night away,  
Wept o'er his wounds, or, tales of sorrow done,  
Shouldered his crutch and showed how fields were  
won

Pleased with his guests, the good man learned to glow,  
And quite forgot their vices in their woe,  
Careless their merits or their faults to scan,  
His pity gave ere charity began

Thus to relieve the wretched was his pride,  
And e'en his failings leaned to Virtue's side,  
But in his duty, prompt at every call,  
He watched and wept, he prayed and felt, for all,  
And, as a bird each fond endearment tries  
To tempt its new-fledged offspring to the skies,

He tried each art, reproved each dull delay,  
Allured to brighter worlds, and led the way

Beside the bed where parting life was laid,  
And sorrow, guilt, and pain, by turns dismayed,  
The reverend champion stood At his control  
Despair and anguish fled the struggling soul,  
Comfort came down the trembling wretch to raise,  
And his last faltering accents whispered praise

At church, with meek and unaffected grace,  
His looks adorned the venerable place  
Truth from his lips prevailed with double sway,  
And fools, who came to scoff, remained to pray.  
The service past, around the pious man,  
With steady zeal, each honest rustic ran,  
Even children followed, with endearing wile,  
And plucked his gown, to share the good man's smile ;  
His ready smile a parent's warmth expressed,  
Their welfare pleased him, and their cares distressed,  
To them his heart, his love, his griefs were given,  
But all his serious thoughts had rest in heaven.  
As some tall cliff that lifts its awful form,  
Swells from the vale, and midway leaves the storm,  
Though round its breast the rolling clouds are spread  
Eternal sunshine settles on its head

(From 'The Deserted Village')

### The Village Schoolmaster

BESIDE yon straggling fence that skirts the way,  
With blossomed furze unprofitably gay,  
There, in his noisy mansion, skilled to rule,  
The village master taught his little school,  
A man severe he was, and stern to view,  
I knew him well, and every truant knew,  
Well had the boding tremblers learned to trace  
The day's disasters in his morning face,

Full well they laughed with counterfeited glee  
At all his jokes, for many a joke had he ;  
Full well the busy whisper, circling round,  
Conveyed the dismal tidings when he frowned :  
Yet he was kind , or if severe in aught,  
The love he bore to learning was in fault  
The village all declared how much he knew ,  
'Twas certain he could write and cypher too ;  
Lands he could measure, terms and tides presage,  
And even the story ran that he could gauge  
In arguing, too, the parson owned his skill,  
For e'en though vanquished, he could argue still ,  
While words of learned length and thund'ring sound  
Amazed the gazing rustics ranged around,  
And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew  
That one small head could carry all he knew.  
But past is all his fame The very spot,  
Where many a time he triumphed, is forgot  
(From *The Deserted Village*)

## WILLIAM COWPER

## The Loss of the 'Royal George'

TOLL for the brave,  
The brave that are no more !  
All sunk beneath the wave  
Fast by their native shore !  
Eight hundred of the brave,  
Whose courage well was tried,  
Had made the vessel heel,  
And laid her on her side  
A land breeze shook the shrouds,  
And she was overset ,  
Down went the *Royal George*,  
With all her crew complete !

Sage beneath a spreading oak,  
Sat the Druid, hoary chief,  
Every burning word he spoke  
Full of rage and full of grief,

' Princess ! if our aged eyes  
Weep upon thy matchless wrongs,  
'Tis because resentment ties  
All the terrors of our tongues

' Rome shall perish—write that word  
In the blood that she has spilt ,  
Perish, hopeless and abhorred,  
Deep in ruin as in guilt

' Rome, for empire far renowned,  
Tramples on a thousand states ,  
Soon her pride shall kiss the ground—  
Hark ! the Gaul is at her gates !

' Other Romans shall arise,  
Heedless of a soldier's name ,  
Sounds, not arms, shall win the prize,  
Harmony the path to fame

' Then the progeny that springs  
From the forests of our land,  
Armed with thunder, clad with wings,  
Shall a wider world command

' Regions Cæsar never knew  
Thy posterity shall sway ,  
Where his eagles never flew,  
None invincible as they

Such the bard's prophetic words,  
Pregnant with celestial fire,  
Bending as he swept the chords  
Of his sweet but awful lyre

She, with all a monarch's pride,  
Felt them in her bosom glow  
Rushed to battle, fought, and died ;  
Dying, hurled them at the foe

' Ruffians, pitiless as proud,  
Heaven awards the vengeance due :  
Empire is on us bestowed,  
Shame and ruin wait for you '

### To Mary

THE twentieth year is well-nigh past  
Since first our sky was overcast ,  
Ah would that this might be the last !  
My Mary !

Thy spirits have a fainter flow,  
I see thee daily weaker grow—  
'Twas my distress that brought thee low,  
My Mary !

Thy needles once a shining store,  
For my sake restless heretofore,  
Now rust disused, and shine no more ;  
My Mary !

For though thou gladly wouldst fulfil  
The same kind office for me still,  
Thy sight now seconds not thy will,  
My Mary !

But well thou play'st the housewife's part,  
And all thy threads with magic art  
Have wound themselves about this heart,  
My Mary!

Thy indistinct expressions seem  
Like language uttered in a dream,  
Yet me they charm, whatever the theme,  
My Mary!

Thy silver locks, once auburn bright,  
Are still more lovely in my sight  
Than golden beams of orient light,  
My Mary!

For could I view nor them nor thee,  
What sight worth seeing could I see?  
The sun would rise in vain for me,  
My Mary!

Partakers of thy sad decline  
Thy hands their little force resign,  
Yet, gently prest, press gently mine,  
My Mary!

Such feebleness of limbs thou prov'st  
That now at every step thou mov'st  
Upheld by two, yet still thou lov'st,  
My Mary!

And still to love though prest with ill,  
In wintry age to feel no chill  
With me is to be lovely still,  
My Mary!



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And still to love, though prest with ill,  
In wintry age to feel no chill,  
With me is to be lovely still,  
My Mary !

But ah ! by constant heed I know  
How oft the sadness that I show  
Transforms thy smiles to looks of woe,  
My Mary !

And should my future lot be cast  
With much resemblance of the past,  
Thy worn-out heart will break at last—  
My Mary !

### JOHN LOGAN

#### To the Cuckoo

HAIL, beauteous stranger of the grove !  
Thou messenger of Spring !  
Now Heaven repairs thy rural seat,  
And woods thy welcome ring

What time the daisy decks the green,  
Thy certain voice we hear  
Hast thou a star to guide thy path,  
Or mark the rolling year ?

Delightful visitant ! with thee  
I had the time of flowers,  
And hear the sound of music sweet  
From birds among the bowers

The schoolboy, wandering through the wood  
To pull the primrose gay,  
Starts, the new voice of Spring to hear,  
And imitates thy lay

What time the pea puts on the bloom,  
Thou fliest thy vocal vale,  
An annual guest in other lands,  
Another Spring to hail

Sweet bird ! thy bower is ever green,  
Thy sky is ever clear,  
Thou hast no sorrow in thy song,  
No Winter in thy year !

O could I fly, I'd fly with thee ;  
We'd make, with joyful wing,  
Our annual visit o'er the globe,  
Companions of the Spring

## GEORGE CRABBE

## Late Autumn

THAT evening all in fond discourse was spent,  
When the sad lover to his chamber went,  
To think on what had passed, to grieve and to repent :  
Early he rose, and looked with many a sigh  
On the red light that filled the eastern sky,  
Oft had he stood before, alert and gay,  
To hail the glories of the new-born day.  
But now dejected, languid, listless, low,  
He saw the wind upon the water blow,  
And the cold stream curled onward as the gale  
From the pine-hill blew harshly down the dale,  
On the right side the youth a wood surveyed,  
With all its dark intensity of shade,  
Where the rough wind alone was heard to move,  
In this, the pause of nature and of love,  
When now the young are reared, and when the old,  
Lost to the tie, grow negligent and cold—  
Far to the left he saw the huts of men,  
Half hid in mist, that hung upon the fen ;  
Before him swallows, gathering from the sea,  
Took their short flights, and twittered on the lea ;

But ah ! by constant heed I know  
How oft the sadness that I show  
Transforms thy smiles to looks of woe,  
My Mary !

And should my future lot be cast  
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Lost to the tie, grow negligent and cold—  
Far to the left he saw the huts of men,  
Half hid in mist, that hung upon the fen ;  
Before him swallows gathering from the sea,  
Took their short flights and twittered on the lea ;

And near the bean-sheaf stood, the harvest done,  
And slowly blackened in the sickly sun ;  
All these were sad in nature, or they took  
Sadness from him, the likeness of his look,  
And of his mind—he pondered for a while,  
Then met his Fanny with a borrowed smile

## WILLIAM BLAKE

## The Tiger

TIGER, Tiger, burning bright  
In the forests of the night,  
What immortal hand or eye  
Framed thy fearful symmetry ?

In what distant deeps or skies  
Burned that fire within thine eyes ?  
On what wings dared he aspire ?  
What the hand dared seize the fire ?

And what shoulder and what art  
Could twist the sinews of thy heart ?  
When thy heart began to beat,  
What dread hand formed thy dread feet ?

What the hammer, what the chain,  
Knit thy strength and forged thy brain ?  
What the anvil ? What dread grasp  
Dared thy deadly terrors clasp ?

When the stars threw down their spears,  
And watered heaven with their tears,  
Did he smile his work to see ?  
Did he who made the lamb make thee ?

## To Spring

O THOU with dewy locks, who lookest down  
Through the clear windows of the morning, turn  
Thine angel eyes upon our western isle,  
Which in full choir hails thy approach, O Spring!

The hills tell each other, and the listening  
Valleys hear, all our longing eyes are turned  
Up to thy bright pavilions issue forth,  
And let thy holy feet visit our clime!

Come o'er the eastern hills, and let our winds  
Kiss thy perfumed garments, let us taste  
Thy morn and evening breath, scatter thy pearls  
Upon our lovesick land that mourns for thee

Oh deck her forth with thy fair fingers, pour  
Thy soft kisses on her bosom, and put  
Thy golden crown upon her languished head,  
Whose modest tresses were bound up for thee!

## Song

How sweet I roamed from field to field,  
And tasted all the summer's pride,  
Till I the Prince of Love beheld  
Who in the sunny beams did glide

He showed me lilies for my hair,  
And blushing roses for my brow,  
He led me through his gardens fair  
Where all his golden pleasures grow

With sweet May dews my wings were wet,  
And Phœbus fired my vocal rage,  
He caught me in his silken net,  
And shut me in his golden cage



He loves to sit and hear me sing,  
 Then laughing, sports and plays with me,  
 Then stretches out my golden wing,  
 And mocks my loss of liberty

### The Building of Jerusalem

AND did those feet in ancient time  
 Walk upon England's mountains green?  
 And was the holy Lamb of God  
 On England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did the countenance divine  
 Shine forth upon our clouded hills?  
 And was Jerusalem builded here  
 Among these dark Satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
 Bring me my arrows of desire!  
 Bring me my spear—O clouds, unfold!  
 Bring me my chariot of fire!

I will not cease from mental fight,  
 Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,  
 Till we have built Jerusalem  
 In England's green and pleasant land

### ROBERT BURNS

#### My heart's in the Highlands

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here  
 My heart's in the Highlands, a chasing the deer,  
 A chasing the wild deer and following the roe—  
 My heart's in the Highlands wherever I go

Farewell to the Highlands, farewell to the North !  
The birthplace of valour, the country of worth ,  
Wherever I wander, wherever I rove,  
The hills of the Highlands for ever I love.

Farewell to the mountains high covered with snow !  
Farewell to the straths and green valleys below !  
Farewell to the forests and wild-hanging woods !  
Farewell to the torrents and loud pouring floods !  
My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,  
My heart's in the Highlands, a chasing the deer ,  
A chasing the wild deer, and following the roe—  
My heart's in the Highlands wherever I go

For a' that and a' that

Is there, for honest poverty,  
That hangs his head, and a' that ?  
The coward slave, we pass him by,  
We dare be poor for a' that !  
For a' that, and a' that,  
Our toils obscure, and a' that ,  
The rank is but the guinea stamp ,  
The man's the gowd for a' that.

What tho' on hamely fare we dine,  
Wear hoddin grey, and a' that ,  
Gie fools their silks, and knaves their wine,  
A man's a man for a' that  
For a' that, and a' that,  
Their tinsel show, and a' that ,  
The honest man, tho' e'er sae poor,  
Is King o' men for a' that

A prince can mak' a belted knight,  
 A marquis, duke, and a' that,  
 But an honest man's aboon his might,  
 Guid faith he mauna fa' that!  
 For a' that, and a' that,  
 Their dignities, and a' that,  
 The pith o' sense, and pride o' worth,  
 Are higher rank than a' that

Then let us pray that come it may,  
 As come it will for a' that  
 That sense and worth, o'er a' the earth,  
 Should bear the gree,<sup>1</sup> and a' that  
 For a' that, and a' that,  
 It's coming yet for a' that,  
 That man to man, the world o'er,  
 Shall brothers be for a' that

<sup>1</sup> Prize

### Mary Morison

O MARY, at thy window be,  
 It is the wished, the trysted hour!  
 Those smiles and glances let me see  
 That make the miser's treasure poor  
 How blithely wad I bide the stoure,<sup>1</sup>  
 A weary slave frae sun to sun,  
 Could I the rich reward secure,  
 The lovely Mary Morison

Yestreen when to the trembling string  
 The dance gaed thro' the lighed ha',  
 To thee my fancy took its wing,—  
 I sat, but neither heard nor saw.

<sup>1</sup> Dust

Tho' this was fur, and that was braw,  
And yon the toast of a' the town,  
I sighed, and said among them a',  
'Ye are na Mary Morison'

O Mary, canst thou wreck his peace  
Wha for thy sake wad gladly dee?  
Or canst thou break that heart of his,  
Whase only fault is loving thee?  
If love for love thou wilt na gie,  
At least be pity to me shown,  
A thought ungentle canna be  
The thought o' Mary Morison

O my Luve's like a red, red rose

O my Luve's like a red, red rose  
That's newly sprung in June  
O my Luve's like the melody  
That's sweetly played in tune.

As fair art thou, my bonnie lass,  
So deep in love am I  
And I will love thee still, my dear,  
Till a' the seas gang dry

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,  
And the rocks melt wi' the sun,  
I will love thee still, my dear  
While the sands o' life shall run

And fare thee weel, my only Luve!  
And fare thee weel awhile!  
And I will come again, my Luve,  
Tho' it were ten thousand mile

## The Cotter's Saturday Night

THE cheerfu' supper done wi' serious face

They round the ingle form a circle wide ,

The sire turns o'er, wi' patriarchal grace

The big ha' Bible ance his father's pride

His bonnet reverently is laid aside

His lyart haffets<sup>1</sup> wearing thin an' bare ,

Those strains that once did sweet in Zion glide,

He wales<sup>2</sup> a portion with judicious care,

And Let us worship God ! he says, with solemn air

They chant their artless notes in simple guise ,

They tune their hearts, by far the noblest aim

Perhaps Dundee's wild warbling measures rise,

Or plaintive Martyrs, worthy of the name ,

Or noble Elgin heets the heavenward flame,

The sweetest far of Scotia's holy lays

Compared with these, Italian trills are tame ,

The tickled ears no heartfelt raptures raise ,

Nae unison hae they with our Creator's praise

The priest like father reads the sacred page

How Abram was the friend of God on high ,

Or Moses bade eternal warfare wage

With Amalek's ungracious progeny

Or how the royal Bard did groaning lie

Beneath the stroke of Heaven's avenging ire ,

Or Job's pathetic plaint and wailing cry

Or rapt Isaiah's wild, seraphic fire

Or other holy Seers that tune the sacred lyre

Perhaps the Christian volume is the theme

How guiltless blood for guilty man was shed ,

How He who bore in Heaven the second name,

Had not on earth whereon to lay His head ,

<sup>1</sup> Grey locks

<sup>2</sup> Chooses

How His first followers and servants sped,  
The precepts sage they wrote to many a land  
How he, who lone in Patmos banishèd,  
Saw in the sun a mighty angel stand,  
And heard great Bab'lon's doom pronounced by  
Heaven's command

Then kneeling down, to Heaven's Eternal King,  
The saint, the father, and the husband prays  
Hope 'springs exulting on triumphant wing,'  
That thus they all shall meet in future days  
There ever bask in uncreated rays,  
No more to sigh, or shed the bitter tear,  
Together hymning their Creator's praise,  
In such society, yet still more dear,  
While circling Time moves round in an eternal sphere.

Then homeward all take off their sev'ral way,  
The youngling cottagers retire to rest  
The parent-pair their secret homage pay,  
And proffer up to Heav'n the warm request,  
That He who stills the raven's clam'rous nest,  
And decks the lily fair in flow'ry pride,  
Would, in the way His wisdom sees the best,  
For them and for their little ones provide  
But chiefly, in their hearts with grace divine preside

O Scotia! my dear, my native soil!  
For whom my warmest wish to Heaven is sent!  
Long may thy hardy sons of rustic toil  
Be blest with health, and peace and sweet content!  
And, Oh, may Heaven their simple lives prevent  
From luxury's contagion, weak and vile,  
Then, howe'er crowns and coronets be rent,  
A virtuous populace may rise the while  
And stand a wall of fire around their much loved Isle

## The Cotter's Saturday Night

THE cheerfu' supper done, wi' serious face,  
 They, round the ingle, form a circle wide,  
 The sire turns o'er, wi' patriarchal grace,  
 The big ha'-Bible, ance his father's pride :  
 His bonnet rev'rently is laid aside,  
 His lyart haffets <sup>1</sup> wearing thin an' bare,  
 Those strains that once did sweet in Zion glide,  
 He wales <sup>2</sup> a portion with judicious care,  
 And ' Let us worship God ! ' he says, with solemn air.

They chant their artless notes in simple guise,  
 They tune their hearts, by far the noblest aim  
 Perhaps Dundee's wild warbling measures rise,  
 Or plaintive Martyrs, worthy of the name,  
 Or noble Elgin beats the heavenward flame,  
 The sweetest far of Scotia's holy lays  
 Compared with these, Italian trills are tame ;  
 The tickled ears no heartfelt raptures raise,  
 Nae unison hae they with our Creator's praise

The priest like father reads the sacred page,  
 How Abram was the friend of God on high,  
 Or Moses bade eternal warfare wage  
 With Amalek's ungracious progeny,  
 Or how the royal Bard did groaning lie  
 Beneath the stroke of Heaven's avenging ire ;  
 Or Job's pathetic plaint, and wailing cry,  
 Or rapt Isaiah's wild, seraphic fire,  
 Or other holy Seers that tune the sacred lyre.

Perhaps the Christian volume is the theme,  
 How guiltless blood for guilty man was shed ;  
 How He, who bore in Heaven the second name,  
 Had not on earth whereon to lay His head,

<sup>1</sup> Grey locks<sup>2</sup> Chooses

## Bannockburn

*(Robert Bruce's Address to His Army)*

Scots wha hae wi Wallace bled  
 Scots wham Bruce has aften led,  
 Welcome to your gory bed  
 Or to glorious victorie!

Now's the day and now's the hour  
 See the front o' battle lower  
 See approach proud Edward's power—  
 Edward! chains and slavery!

Wha will be a traitor knave?  
 Wha can fill a coward's grave?  
 Wha sae base as be a slave?  
 Traitor! coward! turn and flee!

Wha for Scotland's King and Law  
 Freedom's sword will strongly draw,  
 Free man stand or free-man fa?  
 Caledonian! on wi me!

By oppression's woes and pains  
 By your sons in servile chains  
 We will drain our dearest veins  
 But they shall be free!

Lay the proud usurpers low  
 Tyrants fall in every foe  
 Liberty's in every blow  
 Forward! let us do or die



## Auld Lang Syne

SHOULD auld acquaintance be forgot,  
 And never brought to min' ?  
 Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
 And auld lang syne ?

*Chorus*

For auld lang syne, my dear,  
 For auld lang syne  
 We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet  
 For auld lang syne

And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp,<sup>1</sup>  
 And surely I'll be mine !  
 And we'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet,  
 For auld lang syne  
 For auld, etc

We twa ha'e run about the braes,  
 And pou'd the gowans fine ,  
 But we've wandered mony a weary foot  
 Sin' auld lang syne  
 For auld, etc

We twa ha'e paidl't i' the burn,  
 Frae mornin' sun till dine ,  
 But seas between us braid ha'e roared  
 Sin' auld lang syne  
 For auld, etc

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere<sup>2</sup>  
 And gies a hand o' thine !  
 And we'll tak' a right guid wille waught,<sup>3</sup>  
 For auld lang syne  
 For auld, etc

<sup>1</sup> Pint jug<sup>2</sup> Friend<sup>3</sup> Draught

## WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

## The Daffodils

I WANDERED lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vale and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host of golden daffodils!  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.  
  
Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle in the Milky Way,  
They stretched in never ending line  
Along the margin of a bay  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance  
  
The waves beside them danced but they  
Outdid the sparkling waves in glee,  
A poet could not but be gay  
In such a jocund company,  
I gazed, and gazed, but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought  
  
For oft when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the daffodils

## To the Cuckoo

O BLITHE new comer! I have heard,  
I hear thee and rejoice,  
O cuckoo! shall I call thee bird,  
Or but a wandering voice?

While I am lying on the grass  
Thy twofold shout I hear,  
From hill to hill it seems to pass,  
At once far off and near

Though babbling only to the vale  
Of sunshine and of flowers,  
Thou bringest unto me a tale  
Of visionary hours

Thrice welcome, darling of the spring!  
Even yet thou art to me  
No bird, but an invisible thing,  
A voice, a mystery

The same whom in my schoolboy days  
I listened to, that cry  
Which made me look a thousand ways  
In bush, and tree, and sky

To seek thee did I often rove  
Through woods and on the green;  
And thou wert still a hope, a love—  
Still longed for, never seen

And I can listen to thee yet—  
Can lie upon the plain  
And listen till I do beget  
That golden time again

O blessed bird! the earth we pace  
Again appears to be  
An unsubstantial faery place  
That is fit home for thee

## The Solitary Reaper

BEHOLD her single in the field,  
Yon solitary Highland lass !  
Reaping and singing by herself,  
Stop here, or gently pass !  
Alone she cuts and binds the grain,  
And sings a melancholy strain  
*O listen ! for the vale profound*  
Is overflowing with the sound

No nightingale did ever chant  
So sweetly to reposing bands  
Of travellers in some shady haunt  
Among Arabian sands ,  
A voice so thrilling ne'er was heard  
In springtime from the cuckoo bird,  
Breaking the silence of the seas  
Among the farthest Hebrides

Will no one tell me what she sings ?  
Perhaps the plaintive numbers flow  
For old unhappy far off things  
And battles long ago ,  
Or is it some more humble lay  
Familiar matter of to-day ?  
Some actual sorrow, loss or pain  
That has been and may be again ?

Whatever the theme the maiden sang  
As if her song could have no ending ,  
I saw her singing at her work  
And o'er the sickle bending  
I listened till I had my fill ,  
And when I mounted up the hill,  
The music in my heart I bore  
Long after it was heard no more

## Character of the Happy Warrior

WHO is the happy warrior? Who is he  
That every man in arms should wish to be?  
It is the generous spirit, who, when brought  
Among the tasks of real life, hath wrought  
Upon the plan that pleased his childish thought:  
Whose high endeavours are an inward light  
That makes the path before him always bright.  
Who, with a natural instinct to discern  
What knowledge can perform is diligent to learn;  
Abides by this resolve, and stops not there,  
But makes his moral being his prime care,  
Who, doomed to go in company with Pain,  
And Fear, and Bloodshed, miserable train  
Turns his necessity to glorious gain,  
In face of these doth exercise a power  
Which is our human nature's highest dower;  
Controls them and subdues, transmutes, bereaves  
Of their bad influence, and their good receives  
By objects, which might force the soul to abate  
Her feeling, rendered more compassionate,  
Is placable—because occasions rise  
So often that demand such sacrifice,  
More skilful in self-knowledge, even more pure,  
As tempted more, more able to endure,  
As more exposed to suffering and distress;  
Thence, also, more alive to tenderness  
'Tis he whose law is reason: who depends  
Upon that law as on the best of friends,  
Whence, in a state where men are tempted still  
To evil for a guard against worse ill,  
And what in quality or act is best  
Doth seldom on a right foundation rest,  
He fixes good on good alone, and owes  
To virtue every triumph that he knows:

Who, if he rise to station of command,  
Rises by open means, and there will stand  
On honourable terms, or else retire  
And in himself possess his own desire,  
Who comprehends his trust, and to the same  
Keeps faithful with a singleness of aim,  
And, therefore, does not stoop, nor lie in wait  
For wealth, or honours, or for worldly state,  
Whom they must follow, on whose head must fall,  
Like showers of manna, if they come at all  
Whose powers shed round him in the common strife,  
Or mild concerns of ordinary life,  
A constant influence, a peculiar grace,  
But who, if he be called upon to face  
Some awful moment to which Heaven has joined  
Great issues, good or bad for human kind,  
Is happy as a lover, and attired  
With sudden brightness, like a man inspired,  
And, through the heat of conflict, keeps the law  
In calmness made, and sees what he foresaw,  
Or if an unexpected call succeed,  
Come when it will, is equal to the need  
He who, though thus endued as with a sense  
And faculty for storm and turbulence,  
Is yet a soul whose master bias leans  
To homefelt pleasures and to gentle scenes,  
Sweet images<sup>1</sup> which, wheresoe'er he be,  
Are at his heart, and such fidelity  
It is his darling passion to approve,  
More brave for this, that he hath much to love  
'Tis, finally, the man who, lifted high,  
Conspicuous object in a nation's eye,  
Or left unthought of in obscurity,  
Who with a toward or untoward lot,  
Prosperous or adverse, to his wish or not,

Plays, in the many games of life, that one  
Where what he most doth value must be won  
Whom neither shape of danger can dismay,  
Nor thought of tender happiness betray,  
Who, not content that former worth stand fast,  
Looks forward, persevering to the last,  
From well to better, daily self surpast  
Who, whether praise of him must walk the earth  
For ever, and to noble deeds give birth,  
Or he must go to dust without his fame,  
And leave a dead unprofitable name,  
Finds comfort in himself and in his cause,  
And, while the mortal must is gathering, draws  
His breath in confidence of Heaven's applause.  
This is the happy warrior, this is he  
Whom every man in arms should wish to be

### Ode to Duty

STERN Daughter of the Voice of God !  
O Duty ! if that name thou love  
Who art a light to guide, a rod  
To check the erring, and reprove ;  
Thou who art victory and law  
When empty terrors overawe,  
From vain temptations dost set free,  
And calm'st the weary strife of frail humanity !  
There are who ask not if thine eye  
Be on them, who, in love and truth  
Where no misgiving is, rely  
Upon the genial sense of youth  
Glad hearts ! without reproach or blot,  
Who do thy work, and know it not  
Oh ! if through confidence misplaced  
They fail, thy saving arms, dread Power ! around them  
cast

Serene will be our days and bright,  
And happy will our nature be  
When love is an unerring light,  
And joy its own security  
And they a blissful course may hold  
Even now who, not unwisely bold,  
Live in the spirit of this creed  
Yet seek thy firm support according to their need

I loving freedom and untried,  
No sport of every random gust,  
Yet being to myself a guide,  
Too blindly have reposed my trust,  
And oft, when in my heart was heard  
Thy timely mandate I deferred  
The task in smoother walks to stray,  
But thee I now would serve more strictly, if I may

Through no disturbance of my soul  
Or strong compunction in me wrought,  
I supplicate for thy controul,  
But in the quietness of thought  
Me this unchartered freedom tires,  
I feel the weight of chance-desires  
My hopes no more must change their name,  
I long for a repose that ever is the same

Stern Lawgiver! yet thou dost wear  
The Godhead's most benignant grace,  
Nor know we anything so fair  
As is the smile upon thy face  
Flowers laugh before thee on their beds  
And fragrance in thy footing treads  
Thou dost preserve the Stars from wrong  
And the most ancient Heavens, through Thee are  
fresh and strong



To humbler functions, awful Power !  
I call thee I myself commend  
Unto thy guidance from this hour ;  
Oh let my weakness have an end !  
Give unto me, made lowly wise,  
The spirit of self-sacrifice ,  
The confidence of reason give ,  
And in the light of truth thy Bondman let me live.

Sonnet composed on Westminster Bridge

EARTH has not anything to show more fair ,  
Dull would he be of soul who could pass by  
A sight so touching in its majesty ,  
This city now doth, like a garment, wear  
The beauty of the morning , silent, bare,  
Ships, towers, domes, theatres and temples lie  
Open unto the fields, and to the sky ,  
All bright and glittering in the smokeless air  
Never did sun more beautifully steep  
In his first splendour valley, rock, or hill ;  
Ne er saw I, never felt, a calm so deep !  
The River glideth at his own sweet will ,  
Dear God ! the very houses seem asleep ;  
And all that mighty heart is lying still

London, 1802

MILTON ! thou shouldst be living at this hour ;  
England hath need of thee She is a fen  
Of stagnant waters , altar, sword, and pen,  
 Fireside, the heroic wealth of hall and bower,  
Have forfeited their ancient English dower  
Of inward happiness We are selfish men ,  
Oh ! raise us up, return to us again,

And give us manners, virtue, freedom, power  
Thy soul was like a star, and dwelt apart,  
Thou hadst a voice whose sound was like the sea,  
Pure as the naked heavens, majestic, free  
So didst thou travel on life's common way  
In cheerful godliness, and yet thy heart  
The lowliest duties on herself did lay

### Sonnet

It is not to be thought of that the flood  
Of British freedom which to the open sea  
Of the world's pruse from dark antiquity  
Hath flowed, 'with pomp of waters, unwithstood,'  
Roused though it be full often to a mood  
Which spurns the check of salutary bands,  
That this most famous stream in bogs and sands  
Should perish, and to evil, and to good  
Be lost for ever In our halls is hung  
Armoury of the invincible knights of old  
We must be free or die who speak the tongue  
That Shakespeare spake, the faith and morals hold  
Which Milton held In everything we are sprung  
Of Earth's first blood, have titles manifold

JAMES HOGG

### The Skylark

BIRD of the wilderness  
Blithesome and cumberless,  
Sweet be thy matin o'er moorland and lea!  
Emblem of happiness  
Blest is thy dwelling-place,  
Oh to abide in the desert with thee!

Wild is thy lay and loud,  
Far in the downy cloud ;  
Love gives it energy, love gave it birth  
Where on thy dewy wing,  
Where art thou journeying ?  
Thy lay is in heaven, thy love is on earth.

O'er fell and fountain sheen,  
O'er moor and mountain green,  
O'er the red streamer that heralds the day,  
Over the cloudlet dim,  
Over the rainbow's rim,  
Musical cherub, soar, singing away !

Then when the gloaming comes,  
Low in the heather blooms  
Sweet will thy welcome and bed of love be,  
Emblem of happiness,  
Blest is thy dwelling place,  
Oh to abide in the desert with thee !

## SIR WALTER SCOTT

Breathes there the Man with Soul so dead

BREATHES there the man, with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said,

*This is my own, my native land !*

Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,  
As home his footsteps he hath turned,

From wandering on a foreign strand !

If such there breathe, go, mark him well.

For him no Minstrel raptures swell,

High though his titles, proud his name,

Boundless his wealth as wish can claim

Despite those titles, power, and pelf,  
 The wretch, concentrated all in self,  
 Living, shall forfeit fair renown,  
 And, doubly dying, shall go down  
 To the vile dust, from whence he sprung,  
 Unwept, unhonoured, and unsung

O Caledonia ! stern and wild,  
 Meet nurse for a poetic child !  
 Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,  
 Land of the mountain and the flood,  
 Land of my sires ! what mortal hand  
 Can e'er untie the filial band,  
 That knits me to thy rugged strand !  
 Still, as I view each well-known scene,  
 Think what is now, and what has been,  
 Seems as, to me, of all bereft,  
 Sole friends thy woods and streams were left ;  
 And thus I love them better still,  
 Even in extremity of ill  
 By Yarrow's stream still let me stray,  
 Though none should guide my feeble way ;  
 Still feel the breeze down Ettrick break,  
 Although it chill my withered cheek ,  
 Still lay my head by Teviot Stone,  
 Though there, forgotten and alone,  
 The Bard may draw his parting groan

*(From 'The Lay of the Last Minstrel')*

### Rosabelle

O LISTEN, listen, ladies gay !  
 No haughty feat of arms I tell ;  
 Soft is the note, and sad the lay  
 That mourns the lovely Rosabelle

'Moor, moor the barge, ye gallant crew !  
And, gentle lady, deign to stay !  
Rest thee in Castle Ravensheuch,  
Nor tempt the stormy firth to-day.

'The blackening wave is edged with white ;  
To inch and rock the sea-mews fly ,  
The fishers have heard the Water-Sprite,  
Whose screams forebode that wreck is nigh.

'Last night the gifted Seer did view  
A wet shroud swathed round lady gay ;  
Then stay thee, Fair, in Ravensheuch ,  
Why cross the gloomy firth to day ?'

' 'Tis not because Lord Lindesay's heir  
To night at Roslin leads the ball,  
But that my lady mother there  
Sits lonely in her castle hall

' 'Tis not because the ring they ride,  
And Lindesay at the ring rides well,  
But that my sire the wine will chide  
If 'tis not filled by Rosabelle '

O'er Roslin all that dreary night  
A wondrous blaze was seen to gleam ;  
'Twas broader than the watchfire's light,  
And redder than the bright moonbeam.

It glared on Roslin's castled rock,  
It ruddied all the copse-wood glen :

'Twas seen from Dryden's grove of oaks,  
And seen from caverned Hawthornden

Seemed all on fire that chapel proud,  
Where Roslin's chiefs uncoffined lie,  
Each Baron, for a sable shroud,  
Sheathed in his iron panoply

Seemed all on fire within, around,  
Deep sacristy and altar's pile,  
Shone every pillar foliage bound  
And glimmered all the dead men's mail.

Blazed battlement and pinnet high,  
Blazed every rose-carved buttress fair:  
So still they blaze, when fate is nigh  
The lordly line of high Saint Clair

There are twenty of Roslin's barons bold  
Lie buried within that proud chapelle.  
Each one the holy vault doth hold,  
But the sea holds lovely Rosabelle,

And each Saint Clair was buried there,  
With candle, with book, and with knell,  
But the sea caves rung, and the wild waves sung  
The dinge of lovely Rosabelle

Soldier, rest! thy warfare o'er  
SOLDIER, rest! thy warfare o'er,  
Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking;  
Dream of battled fields no more,  
Days of danger, nights of waking

In our isle's enchanted hall

Hands unseen thy couch are strewing,  
Fairy strains of music fall,

Every sense in slumber dewing  
Soldier, rest ! thy warfare o'er,  
Dream of fighting fields no more  
Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking,  
Morn of toil, nor night of waking

No rude sound shall reach thine ear,

Armour's clang, or war-steed champing,  
Trump nor pibroch summon here

Mustering clan, or squadron tramping.  
Yet the lark's shrill fife may come

At the daybreak from the fallow,  
And the bittern sound his drum,

Booming from the sedgy shallow.  
Ruder sounds shall none be near,  
Guards nor warders challenge here,  
Here's no war-steed's neigh and champing,  
Shouting clans or squadrons stamping.

Huntsman, rest ! the chase is done ,

While our slumbrous spells assail ye,  
Dream not, with the rising sun,

Bugles here shall sound reveillé  
Sleep ! the deer is in his den ,

Sleep ! thy hounds are by thee lying ;  
Sleep ! nor dream in yonder glen,

How thy gallant steed lay dying  
Huntsman, rest ! thy chase is done,  
Think not of the rising sun,  
For at dawning to assail ye  
Here no bugles sound reveillé.

*(From 'The Lady of the Lake')*

## Jock of Hazeldean

'WHY weep ye by the tide, ladie?  
Why weep ye by the tide?  
I'll wed ye to my youngest son,  
And ye sall be his bride,  
And ye sall be his bride ladie,  
Sae comely to be seen'—  
But aye she loot the tears down fa'  
For Jock of Hazeldean

'Now let this wilfu' grief be done,  
And dry that cheek so pale  
Young Frank is chief of Errington,  
And lord of Langley dale,  
His step is first in peaceful ha',  
His sword in battle keen'—  
But aye she loot the tears down fa'  
For Jock of Hazeldean

'A chain of gold ye sall not lack,  
Nor braid to bind your hair,  
Nor mettled hound, nor managed hawk,  
Nor palfrey fresh and fair,  
And you the foremost o' them a',  
Shall ride our forest queen'—  
But aye she loot the tears down fa'  
For Jock of Hazeldean

The kirk was decked at morning-tide,  
The tapers glimmered fair,  
The priest and bridegroom wait the bride,  
And dame and knight are there  
They sought her baith by bower and ha',  
The ladie was not seen!  
She's o'er the Border, and awa'  
Wi' Jock of Hazeldean



## Gathering Song of Donald the Black

PIBROCH of Donuil Dhu,  
Pibroch of Donuil,  
Wake thy wild voice anew,  
Summon Clan Conuil  
Come away, come away,  
*Hark to the summons !*  
Come in your war array,  
Gentles and commons  
  
Come from deep glen, and  
From mountain so rocky ;  
The war-pipe and pennon  
Are at Inverlochy  
Come every hill plaid, and  
True heart that wears one,  
Come every steel blade, and  
Strong hand that bears one.  
  
Leave untended the herd,  
The flock without shelter ;  
Leave the corpse uninterred,  
The bride at the altar,  
Leave the deer, leave the steer,  
Leave nets and barges  
Come with your fighting gear,  
Broadsword and targes  
  
Come as the winds come, when  
Forests are rended,  
Come as the waves come, when  
Navies are stranded  
Faster come, faster come,  
Faster and faster,  
Chief, vassal, page and groom,  
Tenant and master

Fast they come, fast they come,  
 See how they gather!  
 Wide waves the eagle plume  
 Blended with heather  
 Cast your plaids, draw your blades,  
 Forward each man set!  
 Pibroch of Donuil Dhu,  
 Knell for the onset!

Sound, sound the clarion

SOUND sound the clarion, fill the fife!  
 To all the sensual world proclaim,  
 One crowded hour of glorious life  
 Is worth an age without a name

*(From 'Old Mortality')*

### Rebecca's Hymn

WHEN Israel, of the Lord beloved,  
 Out from the land of bondage came,  
 Her fathers' God before her moved  
 An awful guide in smoke and flame,  
 By day, along the astonished lands  
 The cloudy pillar glided slow,  
 By night, Arabia's crimsoned sands  
 Returned the fiery column's glow.

There rose the choral hymn of praise,  
 And trump and timbrel answered keen,  
 And Zion's daughters poured their lays  
 With priest's and warrior's voice between  
 No portents now our foes amaze,  
 Forsaken Israel wanders lone  
 Our fathers would not know Thy ways,  
 And Thou hast left them to their own

But present still, though now unseen !  
When brightly shines the prosperous day,  
Be thoughts of Thee a cloudy screen  
To temper the deceitful ray  
And oh, when stoops on Judah's path  
In shade and storm the frequent night,  
Be Thou, long-suffering, slow to wrath,  
A burning and a shining light !

Our harps we left by Babel's streams,  
The tyrant's jest, the Gentile's scorn ;  
No censer round our altar beams,  
And mute are timbrel, harp, and horn  
But Thou hast said The blood of goat,  
The flesh of rams, I will not prize,  
A contrite heart, a humble thought,  
Are Mine accepted sacrifice

*(From Ivanhoe)*

## SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

### Kubla Khan

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan  
A stately pleasure-dome decree  
Where Alph, the sacred river, ran  
Through caverns measureless to man  
Down to a sunless sea  
So twice five miles of fertile ground  
With walls and towers were girdled round  
And there were gardens bright with sinuous rills  
Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree ;  
And here were forests ancient as the hills,  
Enfolding sunny spots of greenery

Fast they come, fast they come,  
 See how they gather !  
 Wide waves the eagle plume  
 Blended with heather  
 Cast your plaids, draw your blades,  
 Forward each man set !  
 Pibroch of Donuil Dhu,  
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(From 'Ivanhoe')

## SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

### Kubla Khan

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan  
A stately pleasure-dome decree •  
Where Alph, the sacred river, ran  
Through caverns measureless to man  
Down to a sunless sea  
So twice five miles of fertile ground  
With walls and towers were girdled round •  
And there were gardens bright with sinuous rills  
Where blossomed many an incense-bearing tree ;  
And here were forests ancient as the hills,  
Enfolding sunny spots of greenery.

But oh! that deep romantic chasm which slanted  
Down the green hill athwart a cedarn cover!  
A savage place! as holy and enchanted  
As e'er beneath a waning moon was haunted  
By woman wailing for her demon lover!  
And from this chasm with ceaseless turmoil seething  
As if this earth in fast thick pants were breathing  
A mighty fountain momently was forced  
Amid whose swift half intermitted burst  
Huge fragments vaulted like rebounding hail  
Or chaffy grain beneath the thresher's flail  
And mid these dancing rocks at once and ever  
It flung up momently the sacred river  
Five miles meandering with a mazy motion  
Through wood and dale the sacred river ran  
Then reached the caverns measureless to man,  
And sank in tumult to a lifeless ocean  
And mid this tumult Kubla heard from far  
Ancestral voices prophesying war!

The shadow of the dome of pleasure  
Floated midway on the waves  
Where was heard the mingled measure  
From the fountain and the caves  
It was a miracle of rare device  
A sunny pleasure dome with caves of ice!  
A damsel with a dulcimer  
In a vision once I saw  
It was an Abyssinian maid  
And on her dulcimer she played,  
Singing of Mount Abora  
Could I revive within me  
Her symphony and song  
To such a deep delight twould win me  
That with music loud and long  
I would build that dome in air

That sunny dome! those caves of ice!  
And all who heard should see them there,  
And all should cry, Beware! Beware!  
His flashing eyes, his floating hair!  
Weave a circle round him thrice,  
And close your eyes with holy dread,  
For he on honey dew hath fed,  
And drunk the milk of Paradise.

## ROBERT SOUTHEY

## The Scholar

My days among the Dead are passed;  
Around me I behold,  
Where'er these casual eyes are cast,  
The mighty minds of old  
My never failing friends are they  
With whom I converse day by day.

With them I take delight in weal,  
And seek relief in woe,  
And while I understand and feel  
How much to them I owe,  
My cheeks have often been bedewed  
With tears of thoughtful gratitude

My thoughts are with the dead, with them  
I live in long past years,  
Their virtues love, their faults condemn,  
Partake their hopes and fears,  
And from their lessons seek and find  
Instruction with an humble mind.

My hopes are with the Dead , anon  
My place with them will be,  
And I with them shall travel on  
Through all futurity ;  
Yet leaving here a name, I trust,  
That will not perish in the dust.

## THOMAS CAMPBELL

## The Battle of Hohenlinden

ON Linden when the sun was low,  
All bloodless lay the untrodden snow,  
And dark as winter was the flow  
Of Iser, rolling rapidly

But Linden saw another sight,  
When the drum beat at dead of night,  
Commanding fires of death to light  
The darkness of her scenery

By torch and trumpet fast arrayed,  
Each warrior drew his battle-blade,  
And furious every charger neighed,  
To join the dreadful revelry

Then shook the hills with thunder riven,  
Then rushed the steed to battle driven,  
And louder than the bolts of Heaven,  
Far flashed the red artillery

And redder yet those fires shall glow  
On Linden's hills of blood stained snow,  
And bloodier yet shall be the flow  
Of Iser, rolling rapidly



'Tis morn ! but scarce yon lurid sun  
Can pierce the war-clouds, rolling dun,  
Where furious Frank and fiery Hun  
Shout in their sulphurous canopy.

The combat deepens On, ye brave  
Who rush to glory, or the grave !  
Wave, Munich ! all thy banners wave  
And charge with all thy chivalry

Few, few shall part, where many meet,  
The snow shall be their winding sheet,  
And every turf beneath their feet  
Shall be a soldier's sepulchre.

## The Battle of the Baltic

### I.

OF Nelson and the North  
Sing the glorious day's renown,  
When to battle fierce came forth  
All the might of Denmark's crown,  
And her arms along the deep proudly shone ;  
By each gun the lighted brand,  
In a bold, determined hand,  
And the Prince of all the land  
Led them on

### II.

Like leviathans afloat  
Lay their bulwarks on the brine,  
While the sign of battle flew  
On the lofty British line  
It was ten of April morn by the chime :  
As they drifted on their path,

## Ye Mariners of England

YE mariners of England  
That guard our native seas,  
Whose flag has braved a thousand years  
The battle and the breeze !  
Your glorious standard launch again  
To match another foe !  
And sweep through the deep  
While the stormy tempests blow ,  
While the battle rages loud and long,  
And the stormy tempests blow

The spirits of your fathers  
Shall start from every wave !  
For the deck it was their field of fame,  
And ocean was their grave  
Where Blake and mighty Nelson fell  
Your manly hearts shall glow,  
As ye sweep through the deep  
While the stormy tempests blow ,  
While the battle rages loud and long,  
And the stormy tempests blow

Britannia needs no bulwark,  
No towers along the steep  
Her march is o'er the mountain waves  
Her home is on the deep  
With thunders from her native oak  
She quells the floods below,  
As they roar on the shore  
When the stormy tempests blow ,  
When the battle rages loud and long,  
And the stormy tempests blow

The meteor flag of England  
Shall yet terrific burn ,  
Till danger's troubled night depart  
And the star of peace return  
Then, then, ye ocean warriors !  
Our song and feast shall flow,  
To the fame of your name,  
When the storm has ceased to blow ,  
When the fiery fight is heard no more,  
And the storm has ceased to blow !

## THOMAS MOORE

## A Canadian Boat-Song

FAINTLY as tolls the evening chime  
Our voices keep tune and our oars keep time  
Soon as the woods on shore look dim,  
We'll sing at St Anne's our parting hymn  
Row, brothers, row, the stream runs fast,  
The Rapids are near and the daylight's past !

Why should we yet our sail unfurl ?  
There is not a breath the blue wave to curl ,  
But, when the wind blows off the shore,  
Oh ! sweetly we'll rest our weary oar  
Blow, breezes, blow, the stream runs fast,  
The Rapids are near and the daylight's past !

Utawa's tide ! this trembling moon  
Shall see us float over thy surges soon  
Saint of this green isle ! hear our prayers,  
Oh, grant us cool heavens and favouring airs  
Blow, breezes, blow, the stream runs fast,  
The Rapids are near and the daylight's past !

## The Last Rose of Summer

'Tis the last rose of summer  
 Left blooming alone,  
 All her lovely companions  
 Are faded and gone,  
 No flower of her kindred,  
 No rosebud is nigh,  
 To reflect back her blushes,  
 To give sigh for sigh

I'll not leave thee, thou lone one!  
 To pine on the stem,  
 Since the lovely are sleeping,  
 Go, sleep thou with them  
 Thus kindly I scatter  
 Thy leaves o'er the bed,  
 Where thy mates of the garden  
 Lie scentless and dead

So soon may I follow,  
 When friendships decay,  
 And from Love's shining circle  
 The gems drop away  
 When true hearts lie withered  
 And fond ones are flown,  
 Oh! who would inhabit  
 This bleak world alone?

## Miriam's Song

SOUND the loud tumbrel o'er Egypt's dark sea!  
 Jehovah has triumphed—His people are free!  
 Sing! for the pride of the tyrant is broken  
 His chariots, his horsemen, all splendid and brave,—

How vain was their boasting!—the Lord hath but spoken,

And chariots and horsemen are sunk in the wave.  
Sound the loud timbrel o'er Egypt's dark sea  
Jehovah has triumphed—His people are free!

Praise to the Conqueror, praise to the Lord!  
His word was our arrow, His breath was our sword!  
Who shall return to tell Egypt the story

Of those she sent forth in the hour of her pride?  
For the Lord hath looked out from His pillar of glory

And all her brave thousands are dashed in the tide  
Sound the loud timbrel o'er Egypt's dark sea.  
Jehovah has triumphed—His people are free!

### JAMES HENRY LEIGH HUNT

#### Abou Ben Adhem and the Angel

ABOU BEN ADHEM (may his tribe increase)  
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,  
And saw—within the moonlight in his room,  
Making it rich and like a lily in bloom—  
An angel, writing in a book of gold  
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,  
And to the presence in the room he said,  
'What writest thou?'—The vision raised its head,  
And, with a look made of all sweet accord,  
Answered, 'The names of those who love the Lord.'  
'And is mine one?' said Abou 'Nay, not so,'  
Replied the angel Abou spoke more low,  
But cheerily still, and said, 'I pray thee, then,  
Write me as one that loves his fellow men'

The angel wrote and vanished    The next night  
 It came again with a great wakening light,  
 And showed the names whom love of God had blessed,  
 And lo ! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest

### The Grasshopper and the Cricket

GREEN little vaulter in the sunny grass,  
 Catching your heart up at the feel of June,  
 Sole voice that's heard amidst the lazy noon,  
 When even the bees lag at the summoning brass ;  
 And you, warm little housekeeper, who class  
 With those who think the candles come too soon,  
 Loving the fire, and with your tricksome tune  
 Nick the glad silent moments as they pass ,

Oh sweet and tiny cousins, that belong  
 One to the fields, the other to the hearth,  
 Both have your sunshine, both though small are  
     strong  
 At your clear hearts, and both seem given to earth  
 To ring in thoughtful ears this natural song—  
 Indoors and out, summer and winter, Mirth

### A Rondeau

JENNY kissed me when we met,  
 Jumping from the chair she sat in ;  
 Time you thief ! who love to get  
     Sweets into your list, put that in  
 Say I'm weary say I'm sad  
     Say that health and wealth have missed me ,  
 Say I'm growing old but add—  
     Jenny kissed me !

# GEORGE GORDON, LORD BYRON

## Lachin y Gair

AWAY, ye gay landscapes, ye gardens of roses !

In you let the minions of luxury rove

Restore me the rocks where the snow flake reposes

Though still they are sacred to freedom and love

Yet, Caledonia, beloved are thy mountains,

Round their white summits though elements war,

Though cataracts foam stead of smooth-flowing fountains,

I sigh for the valley of dark Loch na Garr

Ah ! there my young footsteps in infancy wandered,

My cap was the bonnet, my cloak was the plaid,

On chieftains long perished my memory pondered,

As gaily I strode through the pine covered glade,

I sought not my home till the days dying glory

Gave place to the rays of the bright polar star,

For fancy was cheered by traditional story,

Disclosed by the natives of dark Loch na Garr

' Shades of the dead ' have I not heard your voices

Rise on the night rolling breath of the gale ? '

Surely the soul of the hero rejoices

And rides on the wind, o'er his own Highland vale

Round Loch na Garr while the stormy mist gathers,

Winter presides in his cold icy car

Clouds there encircle the forms of my fathers

They dwell in the tempests of dark Loch na Garr

' Ill starred, though brave did no visions foreboding

Tell you that fate had forsaken your cause ? '

Ah ! were you destined to die at Culloden,

Victory crowned not your fall with applause

The stranger, slave, or savage, their decay  
 Has dried up realms to deserts not so thou,  
 Unchangeable save to thy wild waves' play—  
 Time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow—  
 Such as creation's dawn beheld, thou rollest now.

Thou glorious mirror, where the Almighty's form  
 Glasses itself in tempests, in all time,  
 Calm or convulsed—in breeze, or gale, or storm,  
 Icing the pole, or in the torrid clime  
 Dark-heaving,—boundless, endless, and sublime—  
 The image of Eternity—the throne  
 Of the Invisible, even from out thy slime  
 The monsters of the deep are made, each zone  
 Obeys thee, thou goest forth, dread, fathomless, alone

*(From 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage')*

### Song of the Corsairs

O'ER the glad waters of the dark blue sea,  
 Our thoughts as boundless, and our souls as free,  
 Far as the breeze can bear, the billows foam,  
 Survey our empire, and behold our home!  
 These are our realms, no limits to their sway—  
 Our flag the sceptre all who meet obey  
 Ours the wild life in tumult still to range  
 From toil to rest, and joy in every change  
 Oh, who can tell? not thou, luxurious slave!  
 Whose soul would sicken o'er the heaving wave,  
 Not thou, vain lord of wantonness and ease!  
 Whom slumber soothes not—pleasure cannot please—  
 Oh, who can tell save he whose heart hath tried  
 And danced in triumph o'er the waters wide,  
 The exulting sense—the pulse's maddening play,  
 That thrills the wanderer of that trackless way?



That for itself can woo the approaching fight,  
 And turn what some deem danger to delight,  
 That seeks what cravens shun with more than zeal,  
 And where the feeble faint—can only feel—  
 Feel—to the rising bosom's inmost core,  
 Its hope awaken and its spirit soar?  
 No dread of death—if with us die our foes—  
 Save that it seems even duller than repose  
 Come when it will—we snatch the life of life—  
 When lost—what recks it—by disease or strife?  
 Let him who crawls enamoured of decay,  
 Cling to his couch, and sicken years away,  
 Heave his thick breath, and shake his palsied head;  
 Ours—the fresh turf, and not the feverish bed  
 While gasp by gasp he falters forth his soul,  
 Ours with one pang—one bound—escapes control.  
 His corse may boast its urn and narrow cave,  
 And they who loathed his life may gild his grave;  
 Ours are the tears, though few, sincerely shed,  
 When Ocean shrouds and sepulchres our dead.  
 For us, even banquets fond regret supply  
 In the red cup that crowns our memory  
 And the brief epitaph in danger's day,  
 When those who win at length divide the prey,  
 And cry, Remembrance saddening o'er each brow,  
 'How had the brave who fell exulted now!'

(From 'The Corsair')

### The Isles of Greece

THE isles of Greece! the isles of Greece!  
 Where burning Sappho loved and sung,  
 Where grew the arts of war and peace,  
 Where Delos rose, and Phœbus sprung!  
 Eternal summer gilds them yet,  
 But all, except their sun, is set.

The Scian and the Teian muse,  
 The hero's harp, the lover's lute,  
 Have found the fame your shores refuse:  
 Their place of birth alone is mute  
 To sounds which echo further west  
 Than your sires' 'Islands of the Blest.'

The mountains look on Marathon—  
 And Marathon looks on the sea;  
 And musing there an hour alone,  
 I dreamed that Greece might still be free,  
 For standing on the Persians' grave,  
 I could not deem myself a slave

A king sate on the rocky brow  
 Which looks o'er sea-born Salamis;  
 And ships, by thousands, lay below,  
 And men in nations;—all were his!  
 He counted them at break of day—  
 And when the sun set, where were they?

And where are they? and where art thou,  
 My country? On thy voiceless shore  
 The heroic lay is tuneless now—  
 The heroic bosom beats no more!  
 And must thy lyre, so long divine,  
 Degenerate into hands like mine?

'Tis something in the dearth of fame,  
 Though linked among a fettered race,  
 To feel at least a patriot's shame,  
 Even as I sing, suffuse my face;  
 For what is left the poet here?  
 For Greeks a blush—for Greece a tear.

Must *we* but weep o'er days more blest ?  
Must *we* but blush ?—Our fathers bled  
Earth ! render back from out thy breast  
A remnant of our Spartan dead !  
Of the three hundred grant but three,  
To make a new Thermopylæ !

What, silent still ? and silent all ?  
Ah ! no,—the voices of the dead  
Sound like a distant torrent's fall,  
And answer, ' Let one living head,  
But one, arise,—we come, we come !'  
'Tis but the living who are dumb

In vain—in vain strike other chords ;  
Fill high the cup with Samian wine !  
Leave battles to the Turkish hordes,  
And shed the blood of Scio's vine !  
Hark ! rising to the ignoble call—  
How answers each bold Bacchanal !

You have the Pyrrhic dance as yet ;  
Where is the Pyrrhic phalanx gone ?  
Of two such lessons, why forget  
The nobler and the manlier one ?  
You have the letters Cadmus gave—  
Think ye he meant them for a slave ?

Fill high the bowl with Samian wine !  
We will not think of themes like these !  
It made Anacreon's song divine  
He served—but served Polycrates—  
A tyrant, but our masters then  
Were still, at least, our countrymen

The tyrant of the Chersonese  
 Was freedom's best and bravest friend  
*That tyrant was Miltiades!*

O that the present hour would lend  
 Another despot of the kind!  
 Such chains as his were sure to bind

Fill high the bowl with Samian wine!  
 On Suli's rock and Parga's shore  
 Exists the remnant of a line

Such as the Doric mothers bore  
 And there perhaps some seed is sown,  
 The Heracleidan blood might own

Trust not for freedom to the Franks—  
 They have a king who buys and sells,  
 In native swords and native ranks  
 The only hope of courage dwells  
 But Turkish force and Latin fraud  
 Would break your shield however broad

Fill high the bowl with Samian wine!  
 Our virgins dance beneath the shade—  
 I see their glorious black eyes shine  
 But gazing on each glowing maid  
 My own the burning tear drop javes  
 To think such breasts must suckle slaves

Place me on Sunium's marbled steep  
 Where nothing save the waves and I  
 May hear our mutual murmurs sweep  
 There swan-like let me sing and die  
 A land of slaves shall ne'er be mine—  
 Dash down you cup of Samian wine!

## CHARLES WOLFE

## The Burial of Sir John Moore

Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note,  
 As his corse to the ramparts we hurried  
 Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot  
 O'er the grave where our hero we buried.

We buried him darkly at dead of night,  
 The sods with our bayonets turning,  
 By the struggling moonbeams' misty light,  
 And the lantern dimly burning

No useless coffin enclosed his breast,  
 Not in sheet or in shroud we wound him :  
 But he lay like a warrior taking his rest,  
 With his martial cloak around him

Few and short were the prayers we said,  
 And we spoke not a word of sorrow,  
 But we steadfastly gazed on the face that was dead,  
 And we bitterly thought of the morrow

We thought, as we hollowed his narrow bed,  
 And smoothed down his lonely pillow,  
 That the foe and the stranger would tread o'er his head,  
 And we far away on the billow !

Lightly they'll talk of the spirit that's gone,  
 And o'er his cold ashes upbraid him ,  
 But little he'll reck, if they'll let him sleep on,  
 In the grave where a Briton has laid him

But half of our heavy task was done,  
 When the clock struck the hour for retiring .  
 And we heard the distant and random gun  
 That the foe was sullenly firing

Slowly and sadly we laid him down  
From the field of his fame fresh and gory ,  
We carved not a line, and we raised not a stone,  
But we left him alone with his glory.

## PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

## The Cloud

I BRING fiesh showers for the thirsting flowers,  
From the seas and the streams ,  
I bear light shade for the leaves when laid  
In their noonday dreams  
From my wings are shaken the dews that waken  
The sweet buds every one,  
When rocked to rest on their mother's breast,  
As she dances about the sun  
I wield the flail of the lashing hail,  
And whiten the green plains under,  
And then again I dissolve it in rain,  
And laugh as I pass in thunder

I sift the snow on the mountains below,  
And their great pines groan aghast ,  
And all the night 'tis my pillow white,  
While I sleep in the arms of the blast.  
Sublime on the towers of my skiey bowers,  
Lightning my pilot sits,  
In a cavern under is fettered the thunder,  
It struggles and howls at fits  
Over earth and ocean with gentle motion,  
This pilot is guiding me,  
Lured by the love of the genn that move  
In the depths of the purple sea

That orbèd maiden with white fire laden,  
Whom mortals call the moon,  
Glides glimmering o'er my fleece-like floor,  
By the midnight breezes strewn ;  
And wherever the beat of her unseen feet,  
Which only the angels hear,  
May have broken the woof of my tent's thin roof,  
The stars peep behind her and peer  
And I laugh to see them whirl and flee  
Like a swarm of golden bees,  
When I widen the rent in my wind-built tent,  
Till the calm rivers, lakes, and seas,  
Like strips of the sky fallen through me on high,  
Are each paved with the moon and these  
I am the daughter of earth and water,  
And the nursling of the sky ,  
I pass through the pores of the ocean and shores ;  
I change, but I cannot die.  
For after the rain, when with never a stain  
The pavilion of heaven is bare,  
And the winds and sunbeams with their convex gleams  
Build up the blue dome of air,  
I silently laugh at my own cenotaph ;  
And out of the caverns of rain,  
Like a child from the womb, like a ghost from the  
tomb,  
I arise and unbuild it again.

### To a Skylark

HAIL to thee, blithe spirit !  
Bird thou never wert,  
That from heaven, or near it,  
Pourest thy full heart  
In profuse strains of unpremeditated art

Higher still and higher  
From the earth thou springest  
Like a cloud of fire,  
The blue deep thou wingest,  
And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest

In the golden lightning  
Of the sunken sun,  
O'er which clouds are bright'ning,  
Thou dost float and run,  
Like an unbodied joy whose race is just begun

The pale purple even  
Melts around thy flight;  
Like a star of heaven  
In the broad daylight  
Thou art unseen, but yet I hear thy shrill delight

Keen as are the arrows  
Of that silver sphere,  
Whose intense lamp narrows  
In the white dawn clear  
Until we hardly see, we feel that it is there,

All the earth and air  
With thy voice is loud,  
As when night is bare  
From one lonely cloud  
The moon rains out her beams, and heaven is over-  
flowed,

What thou art we know not;  
What is most like thee?  
From rainbow clouds there flow not  
Drops so bright to see,  
As from thy presence showers a rain of melody



Like a poet hidden  
In the light of thought,  
Singing hymns unbidden,  
Till the world is wrought  
To sympathy with hopes and fears it heeded not.

Like a high born maiden  
In a palace tower,  
Soothing her love-laden  
Soul in secret hour  
With music sweet as love, which overflows her bower

Like a glow-worm golden  
In a dell of dew,  
Scattering unbeholden  
Its aërial hue  
Among the flowers and grass, which screen it from the  
view.

Like a rose embowered  
In its own green leaves,  
By warm winds deflowered,  
Till the scent it gives  
Makes faint with too much sweet these heavy-winged  
thieves

Sound of vernal showers  
On the twinkling grass,  
Rain awakened flowers,  
All that ever was  
Joyous, and clear, and fresh, thy music doth surpass.

Teach us, sprite or bird,  
What sweet thoughts are thine,  
I have never heard  
Praise of love or wine  
That panted forth a flood of rapture so divine

Chorus Hymenæal,  
Or triumphal chaunt,  
Matched with thine would be all  
But an empty vaunt,  
A thing wherein we feel there is some hidden want

What objects are the fountains  
Of thy happy strain ?  
What fields, or waves, or mountains ?  
What shapes of sky or plain ?  
What love of thine own kind ? what ignorance of  
pain ?

With thy clear keen joyance  
Languor cannot be  
Shadow of annoyance  
Never came near thee  
Thou lovest but ne'er knew love's sad satiety

Waking or asleep,  
Thou of death must deem  
Things more true and deep  
Than we mortals dream  
Or could thy notes flow in such a crystal stream ?

We look before and after,  
And pine for what is not  
Our sincerest laughter  
With some pain is fraught ;  
Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest  
thought

Yet if we could scorn  
Hate and pride and fear ,  
If we were things born  
Not to shed a tear  
I know not how thy joy we ever should come near

Better than all measures  
Of delightful sound,  
Better than all treasures  
That in books are found,  
Thy skill to poet were, thou scorner of the ground !  
Teach me half the gladness  
That thy brain must know  
Such harmonious madness  
From thy lips would flow,  
The world should listen then, as I am listening now

Stanzas from 'Adonais'

I WEEP for Adonais—he is dead !  
O weep for Adonais ! though our tears  
Thaw not the frost which binds so dear a head  
And thou, sad Hour, selected from all years  
To mourn our loss, rouse thy obscure compeers,  
And teach them thine own sorrow, say—' With me  
Died Adonais, till the Future dares  
Forget the Past, his fate and name shall be  
An echo and a light unto eternity !'

O weep for Adonais—he is dead !  
Wake, melancholy Mother, wake and weep !  
Yet wherefore ? Quench within their burning bed  
Thy fiery tears, and let thy loud heart keep,  
Like his, a mute and uncomplaining sleep,  
For he is gone where all things wise and fair  
Descend O dream not that the amorous Deep  
Will yet restore him to the vital air !  
Death feeds on his mute voice, and laughs at our  
despair

To that high Capital, where kingly Death  
Keeps his pale court in beauty and decay,

He came, and bought, with price of purest breath,  
 A grave among the Eternal—Come away!  
 Haste! while the vault of blue Italian day  
 Is yet his fitting charnel roof: while still  
 He lies, as if in dewy sleep he lay  
 Awake him not! Surely he takes his fill  
 Of deep and liquid rest, forgetful of all ill.

Alas! that all we loved of him should be,  
 But for our grief, as if it had not been,  
 And grief itself be mortal! Woe is me!  
 Whence are we, and why are we? of what scene  
 The actors or spectators? Great and mean  
 Meet massed in death, who lends what life must  
     borrow  
 As long as skies are blue, and fields are green,  
 Evening must usher night, night urge the morrow,  
 Month follow month with woe, and year wake year to  
     sorrow

Peace, peace! he is not dead, he doth not sleep—  
 He hath awakened from the dream of life—  
 'Tis we, who, lost in stormy visions, keep  
 With phantoms an unprofitable strife,  
 And in mad trance strike with our spirit's knife  
 Invulnerable nothings—we decay  
 Like corpses in a charnel fear and grief  
 Convulse us and consume us day by day,  
 And cold hopes swarm like worms within our living  
     clay

He has outsoared the shadow of our night  
 Envy and calumny, and hate and pain,  
 And that unrest which men miscall delight  
 Can touch him not and torture not again  
 From the contagion of the world's slow stain

He is secure, and now can never mourn  
A heart grown cold, a head grown grey in vain,  
Nor, when the spirit's self has ceased to burn,  
With sparkless ashes load an unlamented urn

He lives, he wakes—'tis Death is dead, not he.  
Mourn not for Adonais—Thou young Dawn,  
Turn all thy dew to splendour, for from thee  
The spirit thou lamentest is not gone,  
Ye caverns and ye forests, cease to moan!  
Cease, ye faint flowers and fountains and thou Air,  
Which like a mourning veil thy scarf hadst thrown  
O'er the abandoned Earth, now leave it bare  
Even to the joyous stars which smile on its despair!

He is made one with Nature there is heard  
His voice in all her music, from the moan  
Of thunder to the song of night's sweet bird:  
He is a presence to be felt and known  
In darkness and in light, from herb and stone,  
Spreading itself where'er that Power may move  
Which has withdrawn his being to its own,  
Which wields the world with never wearied love,  
Sustains it from beneath, and kindles it above

He is a portion of the loveliness  
Which once he made more lovely he doth bear  
His part, while the one Spirit's plastic stress  
Sweeps through the dull dense world, compelling  
there  
All new successions to the forms they wear,  
Torturing the unwilling dross that checks its flight  
To its own likeness, as each mass may bear,  
And bursting in its beauty and its might  
From trees and beasts and men into the Heaven's  
light

The World's Great Age begins anew

THE world's great age begins anew,

The golden years return

The earth doth like a snake renew

Her winter weeds outworn

Heaven smiles and faiths and empires gleam

Like wrecks of a dissolving dream

A brighter Hellas rears its mountains

From waves serener far

A new Peneus rolls his fountains

Against the morning star

Where fairer Tempes bloom there sleep

Young Cyclads on a sunnier deep

A loftier Argo cleaves the main,

Fraught with a later prize

Another Orpheus sings again

And loves and weeps and dies,

A new Ulysses leaves once more

Calypso for his native shore

Oh! write no more the Tale of Troy,

If earth Death's scroll must be!

Nor mix with Larian rage the joy

Which dawns upon the free

Although a subtler Sphinx renew

Riddles of death Thebes never knew

Another Athens shall arise

And to remoter time

Bequeath like sunset to the skies

The splendour of its prime

And leave if naught so bright may live,

All earth can take or heaven can give

Saturn and Love their long repose  
Shall burst more bright and good  
Than all who fell, than one who rose,  
Than many unsubdued  
Not gold, not blood, their altar dowers,  
But votive tears and symbol flowers.

Oh cease! must hate and death return?  
Cease! must men kill and die?  
Cease! drain not to its dregs the urn  
Of bitter prophecy  
The world is weary of the past,  
Oh might it die or rest at last!

(From 'Hellas')

### When the Lamp is shattered

WHEN the lamp is shattered  
The light in the dust lies dead—  
When the cloud is scattered  
The rainbow's glory is shed  
When the lute is broken,  
Sweet tones are remembered not,  
When the lips have spoken,  
Loved accents are soon forgot

As music and splendour  
Survive not the lamp and the lute,  
The heart's echoes render  
No song when the spirit is mute  
No song but sad dirges,  
Like the wind through a ruined cell,  
Or the mournful surges  
That ring the dead scaman's knell

When hearts have once mingled  
Love first leaves the well built nest,  
The weak one is singled  
To endure what it once possest  
O Love! who bewailest  
The frailty of all things here,  
Why choose you the frailest  
For your cradle, your home and your bier?

Its passions will rock thee  
As the storms rock the ravens on high  
Bright reason will mock thee,  
Like the sun from a wintry sky  
From thy nest every rafter  
Will rot, and thine eagle home  
Leave the naked to laughter,  
When leaves fall and cold winds come

## WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT

### Thanatopsis

To him who in the love of Nature holds  
Communion with her visible forms, she speaks  
A various language, for his gayer hours  
She has a voice of gladness, and a smile  
And eloquence of beauty, and she glides  
Into his darker musings, with a mild  
And healing sympathy, that steals away  
Their sharpness, ere he is aware When thoughts  
Of the last bitter hour come like a blight  
Over thy spirit and sad images  
Of the stern agony, and shroud, and pall,



And breathless darkness, and the narrow house,  
Make thee to shudder and grow sick at heart,—  
Go forth, under the open sky, and list  
To Nature's teachings, while from all around—  
Earth and her waters, and the depths of air—  
Comes a still voice—Yet a few days, and thee  
The all-beholding sun shall see no more  
In all his course, nor yet in the cold ground,  
Where thy pale form was laid with many tears,  
Nor in the embrace of ocean, shall exist  
Thy image Earth, that nourished thee, shall claim  
Thy growth, to be resolved to earth again,  
And, lost each human trace, surrendering up  
Thine individual being, shalt thou go  
To mix for ever with the elements,  
To be a brother to the insensible rock,  
And to the sluggish clod, which the rude swain  
Turns with his share, and treads upon The oak  
Shall send his roots abroad, and pierce thy mould

Yet not to thine eternal resting-place  
Shalt thou retire alone, nor couldst thou wish  
Couch more magnificent Thou shalt lie down  
With patriarchs of the infant world—with kings,  
The powerful of the earth—the wise, the good,  
Fair forms, and hoary seers of ages past,  
All in one mighty sepulchre The hills  
Rock-ribbed and ancient as the sun,—the vales  
Stretching in pensive quietness between,  
The venerable woods, rivers that move  
In majesty, and the complaining brooks  
That make the meadows green, and, poured round  
all,  
Old Ocean's grey and melancholy waste,—  
Are but the solemn decorations all

Of the great tomb of man    The golden sun,  
The planets, all the infinite host of heaven,  
Are shining on the sad abodes of death,  
Through the still lapse of ages    All that tread  
The globe are but a handful to the tribes  
That slumber in its bosom—Take the wings  
Of morning, pierce the Barcan wilderness,  
Or lose thyself in the continuous woods  
Where rolls the Oregon, and hears no sound  
Save his own dashings—yet the dead are there—  
And millions in those solitudes, since first  
The flight of years began, have laid them down  
In their last sleep—the dead reign there alone  
So shalt thou rest    and what if thou withdraw  
In silence from the living, and no friend  
Take note of thy departure? All that breathe  
Will share thy destiny    The gay will laugh  
When thou art gone, the solemn brood of care  
Plod on, and each one as before will chase  
His favourite phantom, yet all these shall leave  
Their mirth and their employments, and shall come  
And make their bed with thee    As the long train  
Of ages glide away, the sons of men,  
The youth in life's green spring, and he who goes  
In the full strength of years, matron and maid,  
The speechless babe, and the grey-headed man—  
Shall one by one be gathered to thy side,  
By those, who in their turn shall follow them

So live, that when thy summons comes to join  
The innumerable caravan, which moves  
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take  
His chamber in the silent halls of death,  
Thou go not, like the quarry slave at night,  
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed

By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave,  
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

## JOHN KEATS

## A Thing of Beauty

A THING of beauty is a joy for ever:  
Its loveliness increases, it will never  
Pass into nothingness, but still will keep  
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep  
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing  
Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing  
A flowery band to bind us to the earth,  
Spite of despondence, of the inhuman dearth  
Of noble natures, of the gloomy days,  
Of all the unhealthy and o'er-darkened ways  
Made for our searching yes, in spite of all,  
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall  
From our dark spirits Such the sun, the moon,  
Trees old and young, sprouting a shady boon  
For simple sheep, and such are daffodils  
With the green world they live in, and clear rills  
That for themselves a cooling covert make  
'Gainst the hot season, the mid-forest brake,  
Rich with a sprinkling of fair musk-rose blooms:  
And such too is the grandeur of the dooms  
We have imagined for the mighty dead,  
All lovely tales that we have heard or read.  
An endless fountain of immortal drink,  
Pouring unto us from the heaven's brink.

(From 'Endymion')

## Meg Merrilies

OLD MEG she was a gipsy,  
And lived upon the moors ,  
Her bed it was the brown heath turf,  
And her house was out of doors  
Her apples were swart blackberries,  
Her currants pods o' broom ,  
Her wine was dew of the wild white rose,  
Her book a church-yard tomb

Her brothers were the craggy hills,  
Her sisters larchen trees ,  
Alone with her great family  
She lived as she did please  
No breakfast had she many a morn,  
No dinner many a noon,  
And 'stead of supper, she would stare  
Full hard against the moon

But every morn, of woodbine fresh  
She made her garlanding,  
And, every night, the dark glen yew  
She wove, and she would sing  
And with her fingers old and brown,  
She plaited mats of rushes,  
And gave them to the cottagers  
She met among the bushes

Old Meg was brave as Margaret Queen,  
And tall as Amazon ,  
An old red blanket cloak she wore,  
A chip-hat had she on  
God rest her agèd bones somewhere !  
She died full long agoe !

## Ode to a Nightingale

## I

MY heart aches, and a drowsy numbness pains  
My sense, as *though of hemlock I had drunk,*  
Or emptied some dull opiate to the drains  
One minute past, and Lethe-wards had sunk :  
'Tis not through envy of thy happy lot,  
But being too happy in thine happiness,—  
That thou, light wingèd Dryad of the trees,  
In some melodious plot  
Of beechen green, and shadows numberless,  
Singest of summer in full throated ease

## II

O, for a draught of vintage<sup>1</sup> that hath been  
Cooled a long age in the deep delved earth,  
Tasting of Flora and the country green,  
Dance, and Provençal song, and sunburnt mirth.  
O for a beaker full of the warm South,  
Full of the true, the blushful Hippocrene,  
With beaded bubbles winking at the brim,  
And purple stained mouth,  
That I might drink, and leave the world unseen,  
And with thee fade away into the forest dim

## III

Fade far away, dissolve, and quite forget  
What thou among the leaves hast never known,  
The weariness, the fever, and the fret  
Here, where men sit and hear each other groan,  
Where palsy shakes a few sad, last grey hairs,  
Where youth grows pale and spectre-thin, and dies,

Where but to think is to be full of sorrow  
And leaden eyed despairs,  
Where Beauty cannot keep her lustrous eyes,  
Or new Love pine at them beyond to morrow

## IV

Away! away! for I will fly to thee  
Not charioted by Bacchus and his pards,  
But on the viewless wings of Poesy  
Though the dull brain perplexes and retards  
Already with thee! tender is the night,  
And haply the Queen Moon is on her throne,  
Clustered around by all her starry Fays,  
But here there is no light  
Save what from heaven is with the breezes blown  
Through verdurous glooms and winding mossy  
ways

## V

I cannot see what flowers are at my feet,  
Nor what soft incense hangs upon the boughs,  
But in embalmèd darkness, guess each sweet  
Wherewith the seasonable month endows  
The grass the thicket and the fruit tree wild,  
White hawthorn, and the pastoral eglantine,  
Fast fading violets covered up in leaves  
And mid May's eldest child  
The coming musk rose full of dewy wine,  
The murmurous haunt of flies on summer eves

## VI

Darkling I listen, and, for many a time  
I have been half in love with easeful Death,  
Called him soft names in many a musèd rhyme,  
To take into the air my quiet breath,

Now more than ever seems it rich to die,  
 To cease upon the midnight with no pain,  
     While thou art pouring forth thy soul abroad  
     In such an ecstasy !  
 Still wouldst thou sing, and I have ears in vain—  
 To thy high requiem become a sod

## VII

Thou wast not born for death, immortal Bird !  
 No hungry generations tread thee down,  
 The voice I hear this passing night was heard  
     In ancient days by emperor and clown  
 Perhaps the selfsame song that found a path  
     Through the sad heart of Ruth, when, sick for  
     home,  
     She stood in tears amid the alien corn,  
     The same that oft times hath  
 Charmed magic casements, opening on the foam  
     Of perilous seas, in fairy lands forlorn

## VIII

Forlorn ! the very word is like a bell  
 To toll me back from thee to my sole self !  
 Adieu ! the fancy cannot cheat so well  
     As she is fabled to do, deceiving elf  
 Adieu ! adieu ! thy plaintive anthem fades  
     Past the near meadows, over the still stream,  
     Up the hill-side, and now 'tis buried deep  
     In the next valley glades  
 Was it a vision, or a waking dream ?  
 Fled is that music —Do I wake or sleep ?  
E\*

## On the Grasshopper and Cricket

THE poetry of earth is never dead

When all the birds are faint with the hot sun

And hide in cooling trees a voice will run

From hedge to hedge about the new mown mead

That is the Grasshopper's—he takes the lead

In summer luxury—he has never done

With his delights for when tired out with fun

He rests at ease beneath some pleasant weed

The poetry of earth is ceasing never

On a lone winter evening when the frost

Has wrought a silence from the stove there shrills

The Cricket's song in warmth increasing ever

And seems to one in drowsiness half lost

The Grasshopper's among some grassy hills

## On first looking into Chapman's Homer

MUCH have I travelled in the realms of gold

And many goodly states and kingdoms seen,

Round many western islands have I been

Which bards in fealty to Apollo hold

Oft of one wide expanse had I been told

That deep-browed Homer ruled as his demesne

Yet did I never breathe its pure serene

Till I heard Chapman speak out loud and bold

Then felt I like some watcher of the skies

When a new planet swims into his ken

Or like stout Cortez when with eagle eyes

He stared at the Pacific—and all his men

Looked at each other with a wild surmise—

Silent upon a peak in Darien



## THOMAS HOOD

## Ruth

SHE stood breast-high amid the corn,  
 Clasped by the golden light of morn,  
 Like the sweetheart of the sun,  
 Who many a glowing kiss had won.

On her cheek an autumn flush,  
 Deeply ripened,—such a blush  
 In the midst of brown was born,  
 Like red poppies grown with corn.

Round her eyes her tresses fell,  
 Which were blackest none could tell,  
 But long lashes veiled a light  
 That had else been all too bright.

And her hat, with shady brim,  
 Made her tressy forehead dim,  
 Thus she stood amid the stooks,  
 Praising God with sweetest looks.

'Sure,' I said, 'heav'n did not mean  
 Where I reap thou shouldst but glean,  
 Lay thy sheaf adown and come,  
 Share my harvest and my home.'

## Song

THE stars are with the voyager  
 Wherever he may sail;  
 The moon is constant to her time;  
 The sun will never fail,  
 But follow, follow round the world,  
 The green earth and the sea,  
 So love is with the lover's heart,  
 Wherever he may be.

Thou sun, shine on her joyously , ye breezes, waft  
her wide ,  
Our glorious SEMPER LADEM, the banner of our pride  
The freshening breeze of eve unfurled that banner's  
massy fold  
The parting gleam of sunshine kissed that haughty  
scroll of gold  
Night sank upon the dusky beach and on the purple  
sea,  
Such night in England ne'er had been, nor e'er again  
shall be  
From Eddystone to Berwick Bounds, from Lynn to  
Milford Bay,  
That time of slumber was as bright and busy as the  
day ,  
For swift to east and swift to west the ghastly war-  
flame spread,  
High on St Michael's Mount it shone ; it shone on  
Beachy Head  
Far on the deep the Spaniard saw, along each southern  
shire,  
Cape beyond cape, in endless range, those twinkling  
points of fire  
The fisher left his skiff to rock on Tamar's glittering  
waves,  
The rugged miners poured to war from Mendip's sun-  
less caves ,  
O'er Longleat's towers, o'er Cranbourne's oaks, the fiery  
herald flew ,  
He roused the shepherds of Stonehenge, the rangers of  
Beaulieu  
Right sharp and quick the bells all night rang out from  
Bristol town,  
And ere the day three hundred horse had met on Chilton  
Down ,

The sentinel on Whitehall gate looked forth into the  
night,  
And saw o'erhanging Richmond Hill the streak of  
blood-red light  
Then bugle's note and cannon's roar the deathlike  
silence broke,  
And with one start and with one cry the royal city  
woke  
At once on all her stately gates arose the answering fires ;  
At once the wild alarm clashed from all her reeling  
spires ,  
From all the batteries of the Tower pealed loud the  
voice of fear ,  
And all the thousand masts of Thames sent back a  
louder cheer ,  
And from the farthest wards was heard the rush of  
hurrying feet ,  
And the broad streams of pikes and flags rushed down  
each roaring street ,  
And broader still became the blaze and louder still the  
din ,  
As fast from every village round the horse came  
spurring in ,  
And eastward straight from wild Blackheath the war-  
like errand went ,  
And roused in many an ancient hall the gallant squires  
of Kent  
Southward from Surrey's pleasant hills flew those  
bright couriers forth ,  
High on bleak Hampstead's swarthy moor they started  
for the north ,  
And on, and on, without a pause, untired they bounded  
still ,  
All night from tower to tower they sprang , they  
sprang from hill to hill ,

Right graciously he smiled on us, as rolled from wing to wing,

Down all our line, a deafening shout 'God save our Lord the King!'

'And if my standard-bearer fall, as fall full well he may—

For never saw I promise yet of such a bloody fray—  
Press where ye see my white plume shine, amidst the ranks of war,

And be your oriflamme to day the helmet of Navarre'

Hurrah! the foes are moving Hark to the mingled din  
Of life and steed, and trump and drum, and roaring culverin

The fiery Duke is pricking fast across Saint Andre's plain,  
With all the hireling chivalry of Guelders and Almayne  
Now by the lips of those ye love, fair gentlemen of France,

Charge for the golden lilies—upon them with the lance.  
A thousand spurs are striking deep, a thousand spears in rest,

A thousand knights are pressing close behind the snow-white crest

And in they burst, and on they rushed, while, like a guiding star

Amidst the thickest carnage blazed the helmet of Navarre

Now, God be praised, the day is ours Mayenne hath turned his rein

D'Aumale hath cried for quarter, the Flemish count is slain

Their ranks are breaking like thin clouds before a Biscay gale,

The field is heaped with bleeding steeds, and flags, and  
cloven mail  
And then we thought on vengeance, and, all along our  
van,  
'Remember St Bartholomew!' was passed from man  
to man  
But out spoke gentle Henry 'No Frenchman is my  
foe,  
Down, down with every foreigner, but let your brethren  
go'  
Oh! was there ever such a knight, in friendship or in  
war,  
As our Sovereign Lord, King Henry, the soldier of  
Navarre?

Right well fought all the Frenchmen who fought for  
France to day,  
And many a lordly banner God gave them for a prey  
But we of the religion have borne us best in fight,  
And the good Lord of Rosny has ta'en the cornet white  
Our own true Maximilian the cornet white hath ta'en,  
The cornet white, with crosses black, the flag of false  
Lorraine  
Up with it high! unfurl it wide! that all the host may  
know  
How God hath humbled the proud house which wrought  
His Church such woe  
Then on the ground while trumpets sound their loudest  
point of war,  
Fling the red shreds, a footcloth meet for Henry of  
Navarre.  
Ho, maidens of Vienna! Ho matrons of Lucerne!  
Weep weep, and rend your hair for those who never  
shall return

Ho, Philip ! send, for charity, thy Mexican pistoles,  
That Antwerp monks may sing a mass for thy poor  
    spearmen's souls  
Ho, gallant nobles of the League ! look that your arms  
    be bright,  
Ho, burghers of Saint Genevieve ! keep watch and ward  
    to night  
For our God hath crushed the tyrant ; our God hath  
    raised the slave,  
And mocked the counsel of the wise, and the valour of  
    the brave  
Then glory to His holy name, from whom all glories are !  
And glory to our Sovereign Lord, King Henry of  
    Navarre !

### JAMES CLARENCE MANGAN

#### Dark Rosaleen

O MY dark Rosaleen,  
Do not sigh, do not weep !  
The priests are on the ocean green ;  
    They march along the deep  
There's wine from the royal Pope  
    Upon the ocean green  
And Spanish ale shall give you hope,  
    My dark Rosaleen !  
    My own Rosaleen !  
Shall glad your heart, shall give you hope,  
Shall give you health and help and hope,  
    My dark Rosaleen !  
Over hills and through dales  
    Have I roamed for your sake ;  
All yesterday I sailed with sails  
    On river and on lake

The Erne at its highest flood  
I dashed across unseen,  
For there was lightning in my blood,  
My dark Rosaleen!  
My own Rosaleen!  
O there was lightning in my blood!  
Red lightning lightened through my blood,  
My dark Rosaleen!

All day long, in unrest,  
To and fro do I move;  
*The very soul within my breast*  
Is wasted for you, love!  
The heart in my bosom faints  
To think of you, my queen,  
My life of life, my saint of saints,  
My dark Rosaleen!  
My own Rosaleen!  
To hear your sweet and sad complaints,  
My life, my love, my saint of saints,  
My dark Rosaleen!

Woe and pain, pain and woe,  
Are my lot, night and noon,  
To see your bright face clouded so,  
Like to the mournful moon  
But yet will I rear your throne  
Again in golden sheen  
'Tis you shall reign, and reign alone,  
My dark Rosaleen!  
My own Rosaleen!  
'Tis you shall have the golden throne,  
'Tis you shall reign, and reign alone,  
My dark Rosaleen!

Over dews, over sands,  
Will I fly for your weal;  
Your holy delicate white hands  
Shall girdle me with steel  
At home, in your emerald bowers,  
From morning's dawn till e'en,  
You'll pray for me, my flower of flowers,  
My dark Rosaleen!  
My own Rosaleen!  
You'll think of me through daylight's hours,  
My virgin flower, my flower of flowers,  
My dark Rosaleen!

I could scale the blue air,  
I could plough the high hills!  
O I could kneel all night in prayer  
To heal your many ills!  
And one beamy smile from you  
Would float like light between  
My toils and me, my own, my true,  
My dark Rosaleen!  
My own Rosaleen!  
Would give me life and soul anew,  
A second life, a soul anew  
My dark Rosaleen!

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

The Arrow and the Song

I SHOT an arrow into the air,  
It fell to earth, I knew not where;  
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight  
Could not follow it in its flight.



I breathed a song into the air,  
 It fell to earth, I know not where,  
 For who has sight so keen and strong,  
 That it can follow the flight of song?

Long, long afterward, in an oak  
 I found the arrow, still unbroke;  
 And the song, from beginning to end,  
 I found again in the heart of a friend.

### A Psalm of Life

TELL me not, in mournful numbers,  
 Life is but an empty dream!—  
 For the soul is dead that slumbers,  
 And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!  
 And the grave is not its goal,  
 Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
 Was not spoken of the soul

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,  
 Is our destined end or way  
 But to act, that each to-morrow  
 Find us farther than to-day

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,  
 And our hearts though stout and brave,  
 Still, like muffled drums are beating  
 Funeral marches to the grave

In the world's broad field of battle,  
 In the bivouac of Life  
 Be not like dumb, driven cattle!  
 Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant !  
Let the dead Past bury its dead !  
Act,—act in the living Present !  
Heart within, and God o'erhead !

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time ;

Footprints that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again

Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate ,  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait.

### The Arsenal at Springfield

THIS is the Arsenal From floor to ceiling,  
Like a huge organ, rise the burnished arms ,  
But from their silent pipes no anthem pealing  
Startles the villages with strange alarms

Ah ! what a sound will rise, how wild and dreary,  
When the death angel touches those swift keys !  
What loud lament and dismal Miserere  
Will mingle with their awful symphonies !

I hear even now the infinite fierce chorus,  
The cries of agony, the endless groan,  
Which, through the ages that have gone before us,  
In long reverberations reach our own

On helm and harness rings the Saxon hammer,  
 Through Cimbric forest roars the Norseman's song,  
 And loud, amid the universal clamour,  
 O'er distant deserts sounds the Tartar gong.

I hear the Florentine, who from his palace  
 Wheels out his battle bell with dreadful din,  
 And Aztec priests upon their teocallis  
 Beat the wild war drums made of serpent's skin;

The tumult of each sacked and burning village,  
 The shout that every prayer for mercy drowns,  
 The soldiers' revels in the midst of pillage,  
 The wail of famine in beleaguered towns,

The bursting shell, the gateway wrenched asunder,  
 The rattling musketry, the clashing blade,  
 And ever and anon, in tones of thunder,  
 The diapason of the cannonade

Is it, O man, with such discordant noises,  
 With such accursed instruments as these,  
 Thou drownest Nature's sweet and kindly voices,  
 And jarrest the celestial harmonies?

Were half the power that fills the world with terror,  
 Were half the wealth bestowed on camps and courts,  
 Given to redeem the human mind from error,  
 There were no need of arsenals or forts

The warrior's name would be a name abhorred!  
 And every nation that should lift again  
 Its hand against a brother, on its forehead  
 Would wear for evermore the curse of Cain!

Down the dark future through long generations  
The echoing sounds grow fainter and then cease,  
And like a bell with solemn sweet vibrations  
I hear once more the voice of Christ say Peace !'

Peace ! and no longer from its brazen portals  
The blast of War's great organ shakes the skies !  
But beautiful as songs of the immortals,  
The holy melodies of love arise

### My Lost Youth

OFTEN I think of the beautiful town  
That is seated by the sea  
Often in thought go up and down  
The pleasant streets of that dear old town,  
And my youth comes back to me  
And a verse of a Lapland song  
Is haunting my memory still  
A boy's will is the wind's will  
And the thoughts of youth are long long thoughts

I can see the shadowy lines of its trees,  
And catch in sudden gleams  
The sheen of the far surrounding seas  
And islands that were the Hesperides  
Of all my boyish dreams  
And the burden of that old song,  
It murmurs and whispers still  
A boy's will is the wind's will  
And the thoughts of youth are long long thoughts'

I remember the black wharves and the slips,  
And the sea tides tossing free  
And Spanish sailors with bearded lips  
And the beauty and mystery of the ships

And the magic of the sea  
 And the voice of that wayward song  
 Is singing and saying still  
 'A boy's will is the wind's will,  
 And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts'

I remember the bulwarks by the shore,  
 And the fort upon the hill,  
 The sunrise gun, with its hollow roar,  
 The drum beat repeated o'er and o'er,  
 And the bugle wild and shrill  
 And the music of that old song  
 Throbs in my memory still  
 'A boy's will is the wind's will,  
 And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts'

I remember the sea fight far away,  
 How it thundered o'er the tide!  
 And the dead captains, as they lay  
 In their graves, overlooking the tranquil bay  
 Where they in battle died  
 And the sound of that mournful song  
 Goes through me with a thrill  
 'A boy's will is the wind's will  
 And the thoughts of youth are long long thoughts.'

I can see the breezy dome of groves,  
 The shadows of Deering's Woods  
 And the friendships old and the early loves  
 Come back with a Sabbath sound, as of doves  
 In quiet neighbourhoods  
 And the verse of that sweet old song,  
 It flutters and murmurs still  
 'A boy's will is the wind's will,  
 And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts'

I remember the gleams and glooms that dart  
Across the school boy's brain,  
The song and the silence in the heart,  
That in part are prophecies, and in part  
Are longings wild and vain  
And the voice of that fitful song,  
Sings on, and is never still  
'A boy's will is the wind's will,  
And the thoughts of youth are long long thoughts'

There are things of which I may not speak;  
There are dreams that cannot die,  
There are thoughts that make the strong heart weak,  
And bring a pallor into the cheek,  
And a mist before the eye  
And the words of that fatal song  
Come over me like a chill  
'A boy's will is the wind's will,  
And the thoughts of youth are long long thoughts'

Strange to me now are the forms I meet  
When I visit the dear old town  
But the native air is pure and sweet,  
And the trees that o'ershadow each well known street,  
As they balance up and down  
Are singing the beautiful song  
Are sighing and whispering still:  
'A boy's will is the wind's will,  
And the thoughts of youth are long long thoughts'

And Deering's Woods are fresh and fair,  
And with joy that is almost pain  
My heart goes back to wander there,  
And among the dreams of the days that were,

I find my lost youth again  
 And the strange and beautiful song,  
 The groves are repeating it still  
 'A boy's will is the wind's will,  
 And the thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts.'

## JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER

## The Shipbuilders

THE sky is ruddy in the east,  
 The earth is grey below,  
 And spectral in the river mist,  
 The ship's white timbers show  
 Then let the sounds of measured stroke  
 And grating saw begin  
 The broad axe to the gnarled oak,  
 The mallet to the pin!

Hark!—roars the bellows, blast on blast,  
 The sooty smithy jars,  
 And fire-sparks, rising far and fast,  
 Are fading with the stars  
 All day for us the smith shall stand  
 Beside that flashing forge,  
 All day for us his heavy hand  
 The groaning anvil scourge

From far-off hills the panting team  
 For us is toiling near,  
 For us the raftsmen down the stream  
 Their island barges steer  
 Rings out for us the axman's stroke  
 In forests old and still,—  
 For us the century-circled oak  
 Falls crashing down his hill

Up!—up!—in nobler toil than ours  
No craftsmen bear a part  
We make of Nature's giant powers  
The slaves of human Art  
Lay rib to rib and beam to beam,  
And drive the tree nails free  
Nor faithless joint nor yawning seam  
Shall tempt the searching sea!

Her oaken ribs the vulture-beak  
Of Northern ice may peel,  
The sunken rock and coral peak  
May grate along her keel,  
And know we well the painted shell  
We give to wind and wave,  
Must float, the sailor's citadel,  
Or sink, the sailor's grave!

God bless her! wheresoe'er the breeze  
Her snowy wing shall fan,  
Aside the frozen Hebrides,  
Or sultry Hindostan!  
Where'er, in mart or on the main,  
With peaceful flag unfurled,  
She helps to wind the silken chain  
Of commerce round the world!

Be hers the Prairie's golden grain,  
The Desert's golden sand,  
The clustered fruits of sunny Spain,  
The spice of Morning-land!  
Her pathway on the open main  
May blessings follow free,  
And glad hearts welcome back again  
Her white sails from the sea!



## The Pipes at Lucknow

PIPES of the misty moorlands,  
Voice of the glens and hills;  
The droning of the torrents,  
The treble of the rills!  
Not the braes of broom and heather,  
Nor the mountains dark with rain,  
Nor maiden bower, nor border tower,  
Have heard your sweetest strain!

Dear to the Lowland reaper,  
And plaided mountaineer,—  
To the cottage and the castle  
The Scottish pipes are dear,—  
Sweet sounds the ancient pibroch  
O'er mountain, loch, and glade;  
But the sweetest of all music  
The pipes at Lucknow played.

Day by day the Indian tiger  
Louder yelled, and nearer crept;  
Round and round the jungle serpent  
Near and nearer circles swept  
'Pray for rescue, wives and mothers,—  
Pray to day!' the soldier said,  
'To-morrow, death's between us  
And the wrong and shame we dread.'

Oh, they listened, looked, and waited,  
Till their hope became despair,  
And the sobs of low bewailing  
Filled the pauses of their prayer.  
Then up spake a Scottish maiden,  
With her ear unto the ground  
'Dinna ye hear it?—dinna ye hear it?  
The pipes of Havelock sound!'

Up!—up!—in nobler toil than ours  
No craftsmen bear a part  
We make of Nature's giant powers  
The slaves of human Art  
Lay rib to rib and beam to beam,  
And drive the tree nails free  
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With her ear unto the ground  
' Dinna ye hear it ?—dinna ye hear it ?  
The pipes of Havelock sound ! '

Hushed the wounded man his groaning ;  
Hushed the wife her little ones ,  
Alone they heard the drum-roll  
And the roar of Sepoy guns  
But to sounds of home and childhood  
The Highland ear was true ,—  
As her mother's cradle-crooning  
The mountain pipes she knew.

Like the march of soundless music  
Through the vision of the seer,  
More of feeling than of hearing,  
Of the heart than of the ear,  
She knew the droning pibroch,  
She knew the Campbell's call  
' Hark ! hear ye no' MacGregor's,—  
The grandest o' them all ! '

Oh, they listened, dumb and breathless,  
And they caught the sound at last,  
Faint and far beyond the Goomtee  
Rose and fell the piper's blast !  
Then a burst of wild thanksgiving  
Mingled woman's voice and man's ,  
' God be praised !—the march of Havelock !  
The piping of the clans ! '

Louder, nearer, fierce as vengeance,  
Sharp and shrill as swords at strife,  
Came the wild MacGregor's clan call,  
Stinging all the air to life  
But when the far off dust cloud  
To plaided legions grew,  
Full tenderly and blithesomely  
The pipes of rescue blew !

Round the silver domes of Lucknow,  
Moslem mosque and Pagan shrine,  
Breathed the air to Britons dearest,  
The air of Auld Lang Syne  
O'er the cruel roll of war drums  
Rose that sweet and home-like strain:  
And the tartan clove the turban,  
As the Goomtee cleaves the plain.

Dear to the corn land reaper  
And plaided mountaineer,—  
To the cottage and the castle  
The piper's song is dear  
Sweet sounds the Gaelic pibroch  
O'er mountain, glen and glade;  
But the sweetest of all music  
The pipes at Lucknow played!

### My Playmate

THE pines were dark on Ramoth hill,  
Their song was soft and low,  
The blossoms in the sweet May wind  
Were falling like the snow

The blossoms drifted at our feet,  
The orchard birds sang clear,  
The sweetest and the saddest day  
It seemed of all the year

For, more to me than birds or flowers,  
My playmate left her home,  
And took with her the laughing spring,  
The music and the bloom

Hushed the wounded man his groaning ;  
Hushed the wife her little ones ;  
Alone they heard the drum roll  
And the roar of Sepoy guns  
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The Highland ear was true,—  
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The orchard birds sang clear ,  
The sweetest and the saddest day  
It seemed of all the year

For, more to me than birds or flowers,  
My playmate left her home,  
And took with her the laughing spring,  
The music and the bloom.

She kissed the lips of kith and kin,  
She laid her hand in mine  
What more could ask the bashful boy  
Who fed her father's kine?

She left us in the bloom of May:  
The constant years told o'er  
Their seasons with as sweet May morns,  
But she came back no more

I walk, with noiseless feet, the round  
Of uneventful years,  
Still o'er and o'er I sow the spring  
And reap the autumn ears

She lives where all the golden year  
Her summer roses blow,  
The dusky children of the sun  
Before her come and go

There haply with her jewelled hands  
She smooths her silken gown,—  
No more the homespun lap whereon  
I shook the walnuts down

The wild grapes wait us by the brook,  
The brown nuts on the hill,  
And still the May-day flowers make sweet  
The woods of Follymill

The lilies blossom in the pond,  
The bird builds in the tree  
The dark pines sing on Ramoth hill  
The slow song of the sea



I wonder if she thinks of them,  
And how the old time seems,—  
If ever the pines of Ramoth wood  
Are sounding in her dreams

I see her face, I hear her voice.  
Does she remember mine ?  
And what to her is now the boy  
Who fed her father's kine ?

What cares she that the orioles build  
For other eyes than ours,—  
That other hands with nuts are filled,  
And other laps with flowers ?

O playmate in the golden time !  
Our mossy seat is green,  
Its fringing violets blossom yet,  
The old trees o'er it lean

The winds so sweet with birch and fern  
A sweeter memory blow,  
And there in spring the veeries sing  
The song of long ago

And still the pines of Ramoth wood  
Are moaning like the sea,—  
The moaning of the sea of change  
Between myself and thee !

EDGAR ALLAN POE

## Eldorado

GAILY bedight,  
A gallant Knight,  
In sunshine and shadow  
Had journeyed long,  
Singing a song,  
In search of Eldorado.

But he grew old—  
This Knight so bold,—  
And o'er his heart a shadow  
Fell as he found  
No spot of ground  
That looked like Eldorado.

And as his strength  
Failed him at length,  
He met a pilgrim shadow—  
'Shadow,' said he,  
'Where can it be—  
This land of Eldorado?'

'Over the Mountains  
Of the Moon,  
Down the Valley of the Shadow  
Ride, boldly ride,'  
The shade replied,—  
'It you seek for Eldorado!'

## Annabel Lee

It was many and many a year ago,  
In a kingdom by the sea,  
That a maiden there lived whom you may know  
By the name of Annabel Lee,  
And this maiden she lived with no other thought  
Than to love and be loved by me

I was a child and she was a child,  
In this kingdom by the sea,  
But we loved with a love that was more than love—  
I and my Annabel Lee—  
With a love that the wingèd seraphs of heaven  
Coveted her and me

And this was the reason that long ago,  
In this kingdom by the sea,  
A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling  
My beautiful Annabel Lee  
So that her high-born kinsman came  
And bore her away from me,  
To shut her up in a sepulchre  
In this kingdom by the sea

The angels, not half so happy in heaven,  
Went envying her and me—  
Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know)  
In this kingdom by the sea)  
That the wind came out of the cloud by night,  
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee

But our love it was stronger by far than the love  
Of those who were older than we—  
Of many far wiser than we—

And neither the angels in heaven above,  
Nor the demons down under the sea,  
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee,

For the moon never beams without bringing me dreams  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee,  
And the stars never rise but I feel the bright eyes  
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee  
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side  
Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,  
In her sepulchre there by the sea—  
In her tomb by the sounding sea

### The Bells

HEAR the sledges with the bells—  
Silver bells!

What a world of merriment their melody foretells!  
How they tinkle, tinkle, tinkle,  
In the icy air of night!  
While the stars that oversprinkle  
All the heavens, seem to twinkle  
With a crystalline delight  
Keeping time, time, time,  
In a sort of Runic rhyme,  
To the tintinnabulation that so musically wells  
From the bells, bells, bells, bells,  
Bells, bells, bells—  
From the jingling and the tinkling of the bells

Hear the mellow wedding bells,  
Golden bells!

What a world of happiness their harmony foretells!

Through the balmy air of night  
How they ring out their delight !  
From the molten-golden notes,  
And all in tune,  
What a liquid ditty floats  
To the turtle-dove that listens, while she gloats  
On the moon !  
O from out the sounding cells  
What a gush of euphony voluminously wells !  
How it swells !  
How it dwells  
On the Future ! how it tells  
Of the rapture that impels  
To the swinging and the ringing  
Of the bells, bells, bells,  
Of the bells, bells, bells, bells,  
Bells, bells, bells—  
To the rhyming and the chiming of the bells !

Hear the loud alarum bells—  
Brazen bells !  
What a tale of terror, now, their turbulency tells  
In the startled ear of night  
How they scream out their affright !  
Too much horrified to speak,  
They can only shriek, shriek,  
Out of tune,  
In a clamorous appealing to the mercy of the fire,  
In a mad expostulation with the deaf and frantic fire,  
Leaping higher, higher, higher,  
With a desperate desire,  
And a resolute endeavour  
Now—now to sit or never,  
By the side of the pale faced moon  
O the bells, bells, bells,

What a tale their terror tells.

Of despair !

How they cling, and clash, and roar !

What a horror they outpour

On the bosom of the palpitating air !

Yet the ear it fully knows,

By the twanging,

And the clanging,

How the danger ebbs and flows ;

Yet the ear distinctly tells,

In the jangling

And the wrangling,

How the danger sinks and swells,

By the sinking or the swelling in the anger of the bells—

Of the bells—

Of the bells, bells, bells, bells,

Bells, bells, bells—

In the clamour and the clangour of the bells !

Hear the tolling of the bells—

Iron bells !

What a world of solemn thought their monody compels !

In the silence of the night

How we shiver with affright

At the melancholy menace of their tone !

For every sound that floats

From the rust within their throats

Is a groan

And the people—ah ! the people—

They that dwell up in the steeple,

All alone,

And who, tolling, tolling, tolling,

In that muffled monotone,

Feel a glory in so rolling

On the human heart a stone—

They are neither man nor woman—  
They are neither brute nor human—

They are ghouls  
And their king it is who tolls,  
And he rolls, rolls, rolls,

Rolls

A pæan from the bells!  
And his merry bosom swells  
With the pæan of the bells!  
And he dances and he yells;  
Keeping time, time, time,  
In a sort of Runic rhyme,  
To the pæan of the bells—

Of the bells

Keeping time, time, time,  
In a sort of Runic rhyme,  
To the throbbing of the bells—  
Of the bells, bells, bells—

To the sobbing of the bells;  
Keeping time, time, time,  
As he knells, knells, knells,  
In a happy Runic rhyme,

To the rolling of the bells—  
Of the bells, bells, bells—

To the tolling of the bells,  
Of the bells, bells, bells, bells—

Bells, bells, bells,—

To the moaning and the groaning of the bells!

## OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

### Old Ironsides

AYE, tear her tattered ensign down!  
Long has it waved on high,

And many an eye has danced to see  
That banner in the sky  
Beneath it rung the battle-shout  
And burst the cannon's roar,—  
The meteor of the open air  
Shall sweep the clouds no more.

Her deck, once red with heroes' blood,  
Where knelt the vanquished foe,  
When winds were hurrying o'er the flood,  
And waves were white below,  
No more shall feel the victor's tread,  
Or know the conquered knee,—  
The harpies of the shore shall pluck  
The eagle of the sea !

O better that her shattered hulk  
Should sink beneath the wave,  
Her thunders shook the mighty deep,  
And there should be her grave,  
Nail to her mast her holy flag,  
Set every threadbare sail,  
And give her to the god of storms,  
The lightning and the gale

EDWARD FITZGERALD

Old Song

'Tis a dull sight  
To see the year dying,  
When winter winds  
Set the yellow wood sighing :  
Sighing, O sighing !



When such a time cometh  
I do retire  
Into an old room  
Beside a bright fire •  
O, pile a bright fire !

And there I sit  
Reading old things,  
Of knights and lorn damsels,  
While the wind sings—  
O, drearily sings !

I never look out  
Nor attend to the blast ;  
For all to be seen  
Is the leaves falling fast :  
Falling, falling !

But close at the hearth,  
Like a cricket, sit I,  
Reading of summer  
And chivalry—  
Gallant chivalry !

Then with an old friend  
I talk of our youth—  
How 'twas gladsome, but often  
Foolish, forsooth  
But gladsome, gladsome !

Or, to get merry,  
We sing some old rhyme  
That made the wood ring again  
In summer time—  
Sweet summer time !

Then go we smoking,  
    Silent and snug  
Naught passes between us,  
    Save a brown jug—  
    Sometimes !

And sometimes a tear  
    Will rise in each eye,  
Seeing the two old friends  
    So merrily—  
    So merrily !

And ere to bed  
    Go we, go we,  
Down on the ashes  
    We kneel on the knee,  
    Praying together !

Thus, then, live I  
    Till, 'mid all the gloom,  
By Heaven ! the bold sun  
Is with me in the room  
    Shining, shining !

Then the clouds part,  
    Swallows soaring between ;  
The spring is alive,  
    And the meadows are green !

I jump up like mad,  
    Break the old pipe in twain  
And away to the meadows,  
    The meadows again !

## Stanzas from Omar Khayyám

THINK, in this battered Caravanserai,  
Whose Portals are alternate Night and Day,  
How Sultán after Sultán with his Pomp  
Abode his destined Hour, and went his way.

They say the Lion and the Lizard keep  
The Courts where Jamshyd gloried and drank deep:  
And Bahram, that great Hunter—the wild Ass  
Stamps o'er his Head, but cannot break his sleep.

I sometimes think that never blows so red  
The Rose as where some buried Cæsar bled;  
That every Hyacinth the Garden wears  
Dropt in her Lap from some once lovely Head.

And thus reviving Herb whose tender Green  
Fledges the River Lip on which we lean—  
Ah, lean upon it lightly! for who knows  
From what once lovely Lip it springs unseen!

Ah, my Belovèd, fill the Cup that clears  
To-day of past Regrets and Future Fears:  
*To-morrow*!—Why, *To-morrow* I may be  
Myself with Yesterday's Sev'n thousand Years.

For some we loved, the lovehest and the best  
That from his Vintage *rolling* Time hath prest,  
Have drunk their Cup a Round or two before,  
And one by one crept silently to rest.

And we, that now make merry in the Room  
They left, and Summer dresses in new bloom,  
Ourselves must we beneath the Couch of Earth  
Descend—ourselves to make a Couch—for whom?

Then go we smoking,  
Silent and snug  
Naught passes between us,  
Save a brown jug—  
Sometimes !

And sometimes a tear  
Will rise in each eye,  
Seeing the two old friends  
So merrily—  
So merrily !

And ere to bed  
Go we, go we,  
Down on the ashes  
We kneel on the knee,  
Praying together !

Thus, then, live I  
Till, 'mid all the gloom,  
By Heaven ! the bold sun  
Is with me in the room  
Shining, shining !

Then the clouds part,  
Swallows soaring between ;  
The spring is alive,  
And the meadows are green !

I jump up like mad,  
Break the old pipe in twain  
And away to the meadows,  
The meadows again !

Often, where clear-stemmed platans guard  
 The outlet, did I turn away  
 The boat head down a broad canal  
 From the main river sluiced, where all  
 The sloping of the moon-lit sward  
 Was damask-work, and deep inlay  
 Of braided blooms unmown, which crept  
 Adown to where the water slept  
     A goodly place, a goodly time,  
     For it was in the golden prime  
     Of good Haroun Alraschid

A motion from the river won  
 Ridged the smooth level, bearing on  
 My shallop thro' the star strown calm,  
 Until another night in night  
 I entered, from the clearer light,  
 Imbowered vaults of pillared palm,  
 Imprisoning sweets, which, as they clomb  
 Heavenward, were stayed beneath the dome  
     Of hollow boughs—A goodly time,  
     For it was in the golden prime  
     Of good Haroun Alraschid

Still onward, and the clear canal  
 Is rounded to as clear a lake  
 From the green rivage many a fall  
 Of diamond rillels musical,  
 Thro' little crystal arches low  
 Down from the central fountain's flow  
 Fall'n silver churning seemed to shake  
 The sparkling fints beneath the prow.  
     A goodly place, a goodly time,  
     For it was in the golden prime  
     Of good Haroun Alraschid

Ah, make the most of what we yet may spend,  
Before we too into the Dust descend,  
Dust unto dust, and under Dust to lie,  
Sans Wine, sans Song, sans Singer, and—sans End

ALFRED TENNYSON, LORD TENNYSON

Recollections of the Arabian Nights

WHEN the breeze of a joyful dawn blew free  
In the silken sail of infancy,  
The tide of time flowed back with me,  
The forward flowing tide of time,  
And many a sheeny summer morn,  
Adown the Tigris I was borne,  
By Bagdat's shrines of fretted gold,  
High walled gardens green and old,  
True Mussulman was I and sworn,  
For it was in the golden prime  
Of good Haroun Alraschid

Aught my shallop, rustling thro'  
The low and bloomed foliage, drove  
The fragrant, glistening deeps, and clove  
The citron shadows in the blue  
By garden porches on the brim,  
The costly doors flung open wide,  
Gold glittering thro' lamplight dim,  
And brodered sofas on each side.  
In sooth it was a goodly time,  
For it was in the golden prime  
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     Of good Haroun Alraschid

Above thro' many a bowery turn  
A walk with vary-coloured shells  
Wandered engrained On either side  
All round about the fragrant marge  
From fluted vase, and brazen urn  
In order, eastern flowers large,  
Some dropping low their crimson bells  
Half closed and others studded wide  
With disks and tiars, fed the time  
With odour in the golden prime  
Of good Haroun Alraschid

Far off, and where the lemon grove  
In closest coverture upsprung,  
The living airs of middle night  
Died round the bulbul as he sung,  
Not he but something which possessed  
The darkness of the world, delight,  
Life, anguish, death, immortal love,  
Ceasing not, mingled, unrepressed,  
Apart from place, withholding time,  
But flattering the golden prime  
Of good Haroun Alraschid

Black the garden bowers and grots  
Slumbered the solemn palms were ranged  
Above, unwooded of summer wind  
A sudden splendour from behind  
Flushed all the leaves with rich gold green,  
*And, flowing rapidly between*  
Their interspaces, counterchanged  
The level lake with diamond plots  
Of dark and bright A lovely time,  
For it was in the golden prime  
Of good Haroun Alraschid

Dark-blue the deep sphere overhead,  
 Distinct with vivid stars inlaid,  
 Grew darker from that under-flame :  
 So, leaping lightly from the boat,  
 With silver anchor left afloat,  
 In marvel whence that glory came  
 Upon me, as in sleep I sank  
 In cool soft turf upon the bank,  
     Entranced with that place and time,  
     So worthy of the golden prime  
     Of good Haroun Alraschid

Thence thro' the garden I was drawn—  
 A realm of pleasance, many a mound,  
 And many a shadow chequered lawn  
 Full of the city's stilly sound,  
 And deep myrrh thickets blowing round  
 The stately cedar, tamarisks,  
 Thick rosaries of scented thorn,  
 Tall orient shrubs and obelisks  
     Graven with emblems of the time,  
     In honour of the golden prime  
     Of good Haroun Alraschid

With dazed vision unawares  
 From the long alley's latticed shade  
 Emerged, I came upon the great  
 Pavilion of the Calphat  
 Right to the carven cedarn doors,  
 Flung inward over spangled floors,  
 Broad based flights of marble stairs  
 Ran up with golden balustrade,  
     After the fashion of the time,  
     And humour of the golden prime  
     Of good Haroun Alraschid

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## Ulysses

It little profits that an idle king,  
 By this still hearth, among these barren crags,  
 Matched with an aged wife, I mete and dole  
 Unequal laws unto a savage race,  
 That hoard, and sleep, and feed, and know not me  
 I cannot rest from travel I will drink  
 Life to the lees all times I have enjoyed  
 Greatly, have suffered greatly, both with those  
 That loved me, and alone, on shore, and when  
 Thro' scudding drifts the rainy Hyades  
 Vext the dim sea I am become a name,  
 For always roaming with a hungry heart  
 Much have I seen and known, cities of men  
 And manners, climates, councils, governments,  
 Myself not least, but honoured of them all,  
 And drunk delight of battle with my peers,  
 Far on the ringing plains of windy Troy  
 I am a part of all that I have met  
 Yet all experience is an arch wherethro'  
 Gleams that untravelled world, whose margin fades  
 For ever and for ever when I move  
 How dull it is to pause, to make an end,  
 To rust unhurried, not to shine in use!  
 As tho' to breathe were life Life piled on life  
 Were all too little, and of one to me  
 Little remains but every hour is saved  
 From that eternal silence, something more,  
 A bringer of new things, and vile it were  
 For some three suns to store and hoard myself,  
 And this gray spirit yearning in desire  
 To follow knowledge like a sinking star,  
 Beyond the utmost bound of human thought  
 This is my son, mine own Telemachus,

The fourscore windows all alight  
As with the quintessence of flame,  
A million tapers flaring bright  
From twisted silvers looked to shame  
The hollow-vaulted dark, and streamed  
Upon the moonèd domes aloof  
In inmost Bagdat, till there seemed  
Hundreds of crescents on the roof  
Of night new risen, that marvellous tune  
To celebrate the golden prime  
Of good Haroun Alraschid

Then stole I up and trancedly  
Gazed on the Persian girl alone,  
Serene with argent lidded eyes  
Amorous, and lashes like to rays  
Of darkness, and a brow of pearl  
Tressed with redolent ebony,  
In many a dark delicious curl,  
Flowing beneath her rose hued zone ;  
The sweetest lady of the time,  
Well worthy of the golden prime  
Of good Haroun Alraschid

Six columns, three on either side,  
Pure silver, underpropt a rich  
Throne of the massive ore, from which  
Down drooped, in many a floating fold,  
Engarlanded and diapered  
With inwrought flowers, a cloth of gold  
Thereon, his deep eye laughter stirred  
With merriment of kingly pride,  
Sole star of all that place and time,  
I saw him—in his golden prime  
THE GOOD HAROUN ALRASCHID

Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are,  
One equal temper of heroic hearts,  
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will  
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

### Sir Galahad

My good blade carves the casques of men,  
My tough lance thrusteth sure,  
My strength is as the strength of ten,  
Because my heart is pure  
The shattering trumpet shrilleth high,  
The hard brands shiver on the steel.  
The splintered spear shafts crack and fly,  
The horse and rider reel  
They reel, they roll in clanging lists,  
And when the tide of combat stands,  
Perfume and flowers fall in showers,  
That lightly rain from ladies' hands.

How sweet are looks that ladies bend  
On whom their favours fall!  
For them I battle till the end,  
To save from shame and thrall.  
But all my heart is drawn above,  
My knees are bowed in crypt and shrine:  
I never felt the kiss of love,  
Nor maiden's hand in mine  
More bounteous aspects on me beam,  
Me mightier transports move and thrill;  
So keep I fair thro' faith and prayer  
A virgin heart in work and will

When down the stormy crescent goes,  
A light before me swims,

To whom I leave the sceptre and the isle—  
Well-loved of me, discerning to fulfil  
This labour, by slow prudence to make mild  
A rugged people, and thro' soft degrees  
Subdue them to the useful and the good  
Most blameless is he, centred in the sphere  
Of common duties, decent not to fail  
In offices of tenderness, and pay  
Meet adoration to my household gods,  
When I am gone He works his work, I mine

There lies the port, the vessel puffs her sail:  
There gloom the dark broad seas My mariners,  
Souls that have toiled, and wrought, and thought with  
me—

That ever with a frolic welcome took  
The thunder and the sunshine, and opposed  
Free hearts, free foreheads—you and I are old;  
Old age hath yet his honour and his toil,  
Death closes all but something ere the end,  
Some work of noble note, may yet be done,  
Not unbecoming men that strove with Gods  
The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks  
The long day wanes the slow moon climbs the  
deep

Moans round with many voices Come, my friends,  
Tis not too late to seek a newer world  
Push off, and sitting well in order smite  
The sounding furrows, for my purpose holds  
To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths  
Of all the western stars, until I die  
It may be that the gulfs will wash us down:  
It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles,  
And see the great Achilles, whom we knew  
Tho' much is taken much abides, and tho'  
We are not now that strength which in old days



A maiden knight—to me is given  
Such hope, I know not fear,  
I yearn to breathe the airs of heaven  
That often meet me here  
I muse on joy that will not cease,  
Pure spaces clothed in living beams,  
Pure lilies of eternal peace,  
Whose odours haunt my dreams;  
And, stricken by an angel's hand,  
This mortal armour that I wear,  
This weight and size, this heart and eyes,  
Are touched, are turned to finest air.

The clouds are broken in the sky,  
And thro' the mountain-walls  
A rolling organ-harmony  
Swells up, and shakes and falls  
Then move the trees, the copses nod,  
Wings flutter, voices hover clear  
'O just and faithful knight of God!  
Ride on! the prize is near'  
So pass I hostel, hall, and grange,  
By bridge and ford, by park and pale,  
All armed I ride, whate'er betide,  
Until I find the holy Grail

### Wages

GLORY of warrior, glory of orator, glory of song,  
Paid with a voice flying by to be lost on an endless  
sea—  
Glory of Virtue, to fight, to struggle, to right the  
wrong—  
Nay, but she aimed not at glory, no lover of glory  
she  
Give her the glory of going on, and still to be.

Between dark stems the forest glows,  
I hear a noise of hymns :  
Then by some secret shrine I ride ,  
I hear a voice but none are there ;  
The stalls are void, the doors are wide,  
The tapers burning fair  
Fair gleams the snowy altar cloth,  
The silver vessels sparkle clean,  
The shrill bell rings, the censer swings,  
And solemn chaunts resound between.

Sometimes on lonely mountain-meres  
I find a magic bark ,  
I leap on board no helmsman steers  
I float till all is dark  
A gentle sound, an awful light  
Three angels bear the holy Grail .  
With folded feet, in stoles of white,  
On sleeping wings they sail  
Ah, blessed vision ! blood of God !  
My spirit beats her mortal bars,  
As down dark tides the glory slides,  
And star like mingles with the stars.

When on my goodly charger borne  
Thro dreaming towns I go  
The cock crows ere the Christmas morn,  
The streets are dumb with snow  
The tempest crackles on the leads,  
And, ringing springs from brand and mail ;  
But o'er the dark a glory spreads,  
And gilds the driving hail  
I leave the plain, I climb the height ,  
No branchy thicket shelter yields ,  
But blessed forms in whistling storms  
Fly o'er waste fens and windy fields.

Lines from 'Locksley Hall'

MANY a night from yonder ivied casement, ere I went  
to rest,

Did I look on great Orion sloping slowly to the West

Many a night I saw the Pleiads, rising thro' the mellow  
shade

Glitter like a swarm of fire-flies tangled in a silver  
braid

Here about the beach I wandered nourishing a youth  
sublime

With the fairy tales of science, and the long result of  
Time,

When the centuries behind me like a fruitful land  
reposed

When I clung to all the present for the promise that  
it closed

When I dipt into the future far as human eye could  
see,

Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that  
would be

Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic  
sails

Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with  
costly bales,

Heard the heavens fill with shouting and there rained  
a ghastly dew

From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central  
blue,

The wages of sin is death if the wages of Virtue be  
dust,

Would she have heart to endure for the life of the  
worm and the fly ?

She desires no isles of the blest, no quiet seats of the  
just,

To rest in a golden grove, or to bask in a summer  
sky

Give her the wages of going on, and not to die.

Break, break, break

BREAK, break, break,

On thy cold gray stones, O Sea !

And I would that my tongue could utter  
The thoughts that arise in me

O well for the fisherman's boy,

That he shouts with his sister at play !

O well for the sailor lad,

That he sings in his boat on the bay !

And the stately ships go on

To their haven under the hill,

But O for the touch of a vanished hand,

And the sound of a voice that is still !

Break break break,

At the foot of thy crags, O Sea !

But the tender grace of a day that is dead

Will never come back to me

Round affrighted Lisbon drew  
 The treble works, the vast designs  
 Of his laboured rampart-lines,  
 Where he greatly stood at bay,  
 Whence he issued forth anew,  
 And ever great and greater grew,  
 Beating from the wasted vines  
 Back to France her banded swarms,  
 Back to France with countless blows,  
 Till o'er the hills her eagles flew  
 Beyond the Pyrenean pines,  
 Followed up in valley and glen  
 With blare of bugle, clamour of men,  
 Roll of cannon and clash of arms,  
 And England pouring on her foes  
 Such a war had such a close  
 Again their ravening eagle rose  
 In anger, wheeled on Europe shadowing wings,  
 And barking for the thrones of kings,  
 Till one that sought but Duty's iron crown  
 On that loud sabbath shook the spoiler down,  
 A day of onsets of despair!  
 Dashed on every rocky square  
 Their surging charges foamed themselves away;  
 Last, the Prussian trumpet blew,  
 Thro' the long tormented air  
 Heaven flashed a sudden jubilant ray,  
 And down we swept and charged and overthrew.  
 So great a soldier taught us there,  
 What long-enduring hearts could do  
 In that world-earthquake, Waterloo!  
 Mighty Seaman, tender and true,  
 And pure as he from taint of craven guile,  
 O saviour of the silver-coasted isle,  
 O shaker of the Baltic and the Nile,

Far along the world-wide whisper of the south-wind  
rushing warm,

With the standards of the peoples plunging thro' the  
thunder-storm,

Till the war-drum throbbed no longer, and the battle-  
flags were furled

In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world

### The Duke of Wellington

Who is he that cometh, like an honoured guest,  
With banner and with music, with soldier and with  
priest,

With a nation weeping, and breaking on my rest?

Mighty Seaman, this is he

Was great by land as thou by sea

Thine island loves thee well, thou famous man,

The greatest sailor since our world began.

Now, to the roll of muffled drums,

To thee the greatest soldier comes,

For this is he

Was great by land as thou by sea,

His foes were thine, he kept us free;

O give him welcome this is he

Worthy of our gorgeous rites,

And worthy to be laud by thee;

For this is England's greatest son,

He that gained a hundred fights,

Nor ever lost an English gun,

This is he that far away

Against the myriads of Assaye

Clashed with his fiery few and won;

And underneath another sun,

Warring on a later day,

From the meadow your walks have left so sweet  
That whenever a March-wind sighs  
He sets the jewel-print of your feet  
In violets blue as your eyes,  
To the woody hollows in which we meet  
And the valleys of Paradise

The slender acacia would not shake  
One long milk bloom on the tree,  
The white lake blossom fell into the lake  
As the pimpernel dozed on the lee,  
But the rose was awake all night for your sake,  
Knowing your promise to me,  
The lilies and roses were all awake,  
They sighed for the dawn and thee.

Queen rose of the rosebud garden of girls,  
Come hither, the dances are done,  
In gloss of satin and glimmer of pearls,  
Queen lily and rose in one,  
Shine out, little head, sunning over with curls,  
To the flowers, and be their sun

There has fallen a splendid tear  
From the passion-flower at the gate.  
She is coming, my dove, my dear,  
She is coming, my life, my fate,  
The red rose cries, 'She is near, she is near';  
And the white rose weeps, 'She is late';  
The larkspur listens, 'I hear, I hear',  
And the lily whispers, 'I wait'

She is coming, my own, my sweet;  
Were it ever so airy a tread,  
My heart would hear her and beat,  
Were it earth in an earthy bed;

My dust would hear her and beat,  
Had I lain for a century dead,  
Would start and tremble under her feet,  
And blossom in purple and red

(From 'Maud')

Ring out, wild bells

RING out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light  
The year is dying in the night,  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die

Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go,  
Ring out the false, ring in the true

Ring out the grief that saps the mind,  
For those that here we see no more;  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind

Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
And ancient forms of party strife;  
Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
With sweeter manners, purer laws

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the times,  
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,  
But ring the fuller minstrel in

Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite,  
Ring in the love of truth and right,  
Ring in the common love of good



Ring out old shapes of foul disease ,  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold ;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace

Ring in the valiant man and free  
The larger heart, the kinder hand ;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be

(From 'In Memoriam' )

## SIR FRANCIS HASTINGS DOYLE

### The Loss of the 'Birkenhead'

RIGHT on our flank the crimson sun went down,  
The deep sea rolled around in dark repose,  
When, like the wild shriek from some captured town,  
A cry of women rose

The stout ship *Birkenhead* lay hard and fast,  
Caught, without hope, upon a hidden rock ,  
Her timbers thrilled as nerves, when thro' them passed  
The spirit of that shock

And ever like base cowards, who leave their ranks  
In danger's hour, before the rush of steel,  
Drifted away, disorderly, the planks,  
From underneath her keel

So calm the air, so calm and still the flood,  
That, low down in its blue translucent glass,  
We saw the great fierce fish, that thirst for blood,  
Pass slowly, then repass

They tarried, the waves tarried for their prey !  
The sea turned one clear smile ! like things asleep  
Those dark shapes in the azure silence lay  
As quiet as the deep.

Then amidst oath and prayer and rush and wreck,  
Faint screams, faint questions waiting no reply,  
Our Colonel gave the word, and on the deck  
Formed us in line to die

To die !—'twas hard, whilst the sleek ocean glowed  
Beneath a sky as fair as summer flowers !—  
'All to the boats !' cried one he was, thank God,  
No officer of ours !

Our English hearts beat true —we would not stir,  
That base appeal we heard but heeded not,  
On land, on sea, we had our colours, Sir,  
To keep without a spot !

They shall not say in England that we fought  
With shameful strength unhonoured life to seek  
Into mean safety, mean deserters, brought  
By trampling down the weak

So we made women with their children go  
The oars ply back again, and yet again,  
Whilst, inch by inch, the drowning ship sank low  
Still under steadfast men,

What follows, why recall ?—the brave who died,  
Died without finching in the bloody surf,  
They sleep as well beneath the purple tide  
As others under turf.

They sleep as well ! and, roused from their wild grave  
Wearing their wounds like stars, shall rise again  
Joint heirs with Christ, because they bled to save  
His weak ones, not in vain

### The Private of the Buffs

LAST night, among his fellow roughs,  
He jested, quaffed, and swore,  
A drunken private of the Buffs,  
Who never looked before  
To day, beneath the foeman's frown,  
He stands in Elgin's place,  
Ambassador from Britain's crown  
And type of all her race

Poor, reckless, rude, low-born, untaught,  
Bewildered, and alone,  
A heart with English instinct fraught  
He yet can call his own  
Aye tear his body limb from limb,  
Bring cord or axe, or flame  
He only knows, that not through him  
Shall England come to shame

Far Kentish hop fields round him seemed,  
Like dreams, to come and go,  
Bright leagues of cherry blossom gleamed,  
One sheet of living snow  
The smoke above his father's door  
In grey soft eddyings hung  
Must he then watch it rise no more,  
Doomed by himself, so young ?

Yes, honour calls!—with strength like steel  
 He put the vision by  
 Let dusky Indians whine and kneel,  
 An English lad must die  
 And thus with eyes that would not shrink,  
 With knee to man unbent,  
 Unfaltering on its dreadful brink,  
 To his red grave he went

Vain, mightiest fleets of iron framed;  
 Vain, those all-shattering guns,  
 Unless proud England keep, untamed,  
 The strong heart of her sons  
 So, let his name through Europe ring—  
 A man of mean estate,  
 Who died, as firm as Sparta's king,  
 Because his soul was great

## ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING

### The Forced Recruit

IN the ranks of the Austrian you found him,  
 He died with his face to you all,  
 Yet bury him here where around him  
 You honour your bravest that fall

*Venetian, fair featured and slender,*  
 He lies shot to death in his youth,  
 With a smile on his lips over tender  
 For any mere soldier's dead mouth

No stranger, and yet not a traitor,  
 Though alien the cloth on his breast,  
 Underneath it how seldom a greater  
 Young heart has a shot sent to rest!

How do I love thee ?

How do I love thee ? Let me count the ways  
 I love thee to the depth and breadth and height  
 My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight  
 For the ends of Being and ideal Grace  
 I love thee to the level of every day's  
 Most quiet need, by sun and candlelight  
 I love thee freely, as men strive for Right ;  
 I love thee purely, as they turn from Praise.  
 I love thee with the passion put to use  
 In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith  
 I love thee with a love I seemed to lose  
 With my lost saints,—I love thee with the breath,  
 Smiles, tears, of all my life!—and, if God choose,  
 I shall but love thee better after death

*(From 'Sonnets from the Portuguese')*

## ROBERT BROWNING

### Pippa's Song

THE year's at the spring,  
 And day's at the morn,  
 Morning's at seven,  
 The hill side's dew-pearled ;  
 The lark's on the wing,  
 The snail's on the thorn  
 Gods in His heaven—  
 All's right with the world !

*(From 'Pippa Passes')*

## How they brought the Good News from Ghent to Aix

### I.

I SPRANG to the stirrup, and Joris, and he ;  
I galloped, Dirck galloped, we galloped all three ;  
'Good speed !' cried the watch, as the gate-bolts  
undrew ,  
'Speed !' echoed the wall to us galloping through ,  
Behind shut the postern, the lights sank to rest,  
And into the midnight we galloped abreast

### II

Not a word to each other , we kept the great pace,  
Neck by neck, stride by stride, never changing our place,  
I turned in my saddle and made its girths tight,  
Then shortened each stirrup, and set the pique right,  
Rebuckled the cheek-strap, chained slacker the bit,  
Nor galloped less steadily Roland a whit

### III

'Twas moonset at starting , but while we drew near  
Lokeren, the cocks crew and twilight dawned clear ,  
At Boom, a great yellow star came out to see ,  
At Duffeld, 'twas morning as plain as could be ,  
And from Mecheln church-steeple we heard the half-  
chime,  
So, Joris broke silence with, 'Yet there is time !'

### IV

At Aershot, up leaped of a sudden the sun,  
And against him the cattle stood black every one,  
To stare thro' the mist at us galloping past,  
And I saw my stout galloper Roland at last,  
With resolute shoulders, each butting away  
The haze, as some bluff river headland its spray .

## V.

And his low head and crest, just one sharp ear bent  
back

For my voice, and the other pricked out on his track;  
And one eye's black intelligence,—ever that glance  
O'er its white edge at me, his own master, askance!  
And the thick heavy spume-flakes which aye and anon  
His fierce lips shook upwards in galloping on

## VI.

By Hasselt, Dirck groaned, and cried Joris, 'Stay  
spur!

'Your Roos galloped bravely, the fault's not in her,  
We'll remember at Aix'—for one heard the quick  
wheeze

Of her chest, saw the stretched neck and staggering  
knees,

And sunk tail, and horrible heave of the flank,  
As down on her haunches she shuddered and sank.

## VII

So, we were left galloping, Joris and I,  
Past Looz and past Tongres, no cloud in the sky;  
The broad sun above laughed a pitiless laugh,  
'Neath our feet broke the brittle bright stubble like  
chaff,

Till over by Dalhem a dome spire sprang white,  
And 'Gallop,' gasped Joris, 'for Aix is in sight!'

## VIII

'How they'll greet us!'—and all in a moment his roar  
Rolled neck and croup over, lay dead as a stone,  
And there was my Roland to bear the whole weight  
Of the news which alone could save Aix from her fate,  
With his nostrils like pits full of blood to the brim,  
And with circles of red for his eye socket s rim

## IX.

Then I cast loose my buffcoat, each holster let fall,  
Shook off both my jack-boots, let go belt and all,  
Stood up in the stirrup, leaned, patted his ear,  
Called my Roland his pet-name, my horse without  
peer,  
Clapped my hands, laughed and sang, any noise bad  
or good,  
Till at length into Aix Roland galloped and stood

## X

And all I remember is—friends flocking round  
As I sat with his head twixt my knees on the ground,  
And no voice but was praising this Roland of mine,  
As I poured down his throat our last measure of wine,  
Which (the burgesses voted by common consent)  
Was no more than his due who brought good news  
from Ghent

## Hervé Riel

## I

ON the sea and at the Hogue, sixteen hundred ninety-  
two,  
Did the English fight the French,—woe to France!  
And, the thirty first of May, helter-skelter through the  
blue,  
Like a crowd of frightened porpoises a shoal of sharks  
pursue,  
Came crowding ship on ship to Saint Malo on the  
Rance,  
With the English fleet in view.



## II

'Twas the squadron that escaped, with the victor in  
 full chase,  
 First and foremost of the drove, in his great ship,  
 Damreville;  
 Close on him fled, great and small,  
 Twenty-two good ships in all,  
 And they signalled to the place,  
 ' Help the winners of a race !'  
 Get us guidance, give us harbour, take us quick—  
 or, quicker still,  
 Here's the English can and will !'

## III.

Then the pilots of the place put out brisk and leapt  
 on board,  
 ' Why, what hope or chance have ships like these to  
 pass ? ' laughed they  
 ' Rocks to starboard, rocks to port, all the passage  
 scarred and scored,—  
 Shall the *Formidable* here, with her twelve and eighty  
 guns,  
 Think to make the river-mouth by the single narrow  
 way,  
 Trust to enter—where 'tis ticklish for a craft of twenty  
 tons,  
 And with flow at full beside ?  
 Now 'tis slackest ebb of tide  
 Reach the mooring ? Rather say,  
 While rock stands or water runs,  
 Not a ship will leave the bay !'

## IV

Then was called a council straight.  
 Brief and bitter the debate

Here's the English at our heels, would you have  
 them take in tow  
 All that's left us of the fleet, linked together stern  
 and bow,  
 For a prize to Plymouth Sound?  
 Better run the ships aground!<sup>1</sup>  
 (Ended Damfreville his speech)  
 'Not a minute more to wait!  
 Let the Captains all and each  
 Shove ashore, then blow up, burn the vessels on the  
 beach!  
 France must undergo her fate.

## V

'Give the word!' But no such word  
 Was ever spoke or heard,  
 For up stood, for out stepped, for in struck amid  
 all these  
 —A Captain? A Lieutenant? A Mate—first, second,  
 third?  
 No such man of mark, and meet  
 With his betters to compete!  
 But a simple Breton sailor pressed by Tourville for  
 the fleet,  
 A poor coasting-pilot he, Herve Riel the Croisichese<sup>1</sup>

## VI

And 'What mockery or malice have we here?' cries  
 Herve Riel  
 'Are you mad, you Malouns?<sup>2</sup> Are you cowards,  
 fools, or rogues?

<sup>1</sup> *Croisichese* native of Le Croisic, a village at the mouth of the Loire, where this poem was written

<sup>2</sup> *Malouns* natives of St. Malo

Talk to me of rocks and shoals, me who took the soundings, tell

On my fingers every bank, every shallow, every swell  
'Twixt the offing here and Grève where the river disembogues? <sup>1</sup>

Are you bought by English gold? Is it love the lying's for?

Morn and eve, night and day,

Have I piloted your bay,

Entered free and anchored fast at the foot of Solidor.

Burn the fleet and ruin France? That were worse than fifty Hagues!

Sirs, they know I speak the truth! Sirs, believe me there's a way!

Only let me lead the line,

Have the biggest ship to steer,

Get this *Formidable* clear,

Make the others follow mine,

And I lead them, most and least, by a passage I know well,

Right to Solidor past Grève,

And there lay them safe and sound;

And if one ship misbehave,—

Keel so much as grate the ground,

Why, I've nothing but my life,—here's my head!'

cries Herve Riel

## VII.

Not a minute more to wait

'Steer us in, then, small and great!

Take the helm, lead the line, save the squadron!'

cried its chief

Captains give the sailor place!

He is Admiral, in brief

<sup>1</sup> *Disembogues* enters the sea

Still the north-wind, by God's grace.  
 See the noble fellow's face  
 As the big ship, with a hound,  
 Clears the entry like a hound,  
 Keeps the passage, as its inch of way were the wide  
     sea's profound !  
 See, safe thro' shoal and rock,  
 How they follow in a flock,  
 Not a ship that misbehaves, not a keel that grates the  
     ground,  
 Not a spar that comes to grief !  
 The peril, see, is past.  
 All are harboured to the last,  
 And just as Hervé Riel hollas ' Anchor ! '—sure as fate,  
 Up the English come,—too late !

## VIII.

So, the storm subsides to calm :  
 They see the green trees wave  
 On the heights o'erlooking Greve  
 Hearts that bled are stanch'd with halm.  
 ' Just our rapture to enhance,  
 Let the English rake the bay,  
 Gnash their teeth and glare askance  
 As they cannonade away !  
 ' Neath rampired <sup>1</sup> Schdor pleasant riding on the  
     Rance ! '  
 How hope succeeds despair on each Captain's counte-  
     nance !  
 Out burst all with one accord,  
 ' This is Paradise for Hell !  
 Let France, let France's King  
 Thank the man that did the thing ! '

<sup>1</sup> *Rampired* fortified.

What a shout, and all one word,  
‘Herve Riel!’  
As he stepped in front once more,  
Not a symptom of surprise  
In the frank blue Breton eyes,  
Just the same man as before

## IX

Then said Damfreville, ‘My friend,  
I must speak out at the end  
Though I find the speaking hard  
Praise is deeper than the lips  
You have saved the King his ships,  
You must name your own reward  
‘Faith, our sun was near eclipse!  
Demand whate er you will  
France remains your debtor still  
Ask to heart’s content and have’ or my name’s not  
Damfreville’

## X

Then a beam of fun outbroke  
On the bearded mouth that spoke,  
As the honest heart laughed through  
Those frank eyes of Breton blue  
Since I needs must say my say  
Since on board the duty’s done  
And from Malo Roads to Croisic Point, what is it  
but a run?—  
Since tis ask and have I may—  
Since the others go ashore—  
Come! A good whole holiday!  
Leave to go and see my wife, whom I call the Belle  
Aurore!  
That he asked and that he got,—nothing more

## XI

Name and deed alike are lost :

Not a pillar nor a post

In his Croisic keeps alive the feat as it befell ;

Not a head in white and black

On a single fishing-smack,

In memory of the man but for whom had gone to  
wrack

All that France saved from the fight whence  
England bore the bell

Go to Paris rank on rank

Search the heroes flung pell mell

On the Louvre, face and flank !

You shall look long enough ere you come to Hervé  
Riel

So, for better and for worse,

Herve Riel, accept my verse !

In my verse, Herve Riel, do thou once more

Save the squadron, honour France, love thy wife the  
Belle Aurore !

### Home Thoughts from the Sea

NOBLY, nobly Cape Saint Vincent to the North west  
died away ,

Sunset ran, one glorious blood red, reeking into Cadiz  
Bay ,

Blush 'mid the burning water, full in face Trafalgar lay ,  
In the dimmest North east distance dawned Gibraltar

grand and gray ,

' Here and here did England help me how can I help  
England ? '—say,

Whoso turns as I, this evening, turn to God to praise  
and pray,

While Jove's planet rises yonder, silent over Africa.

## Home Thoughts from Abroad

Oh, to be in England  
Now that April's there,  
And whoever wakes in England  
Sees, some morning, unaware,  
That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf  
Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,  
While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough  
In England—now!

And after April, when May follows,  
And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!  
Hark, where my blossomed pear-tree in the hedge  
Leans to the field and scatters on the clover  
Blossoms and dewdrops—at the bent spray's edge—  
That's the wise thrush, he sings each song twice over,  
Lest you should think he never could recapture  
The first fine careless rapture!  
And though the fields look rough with hoary dew  
All will be gay when noontide wakes anew  
The buttercups, the little children's dower  
—Far brighter than this gaudy melon-flower!

'De Gustibus——'

YOUR ghost will walk, you lover of trees,  
    (If our loves remain)  
    In an English lane,  
By a cornfield side a-flutter with poppies.  
Hark, those two in the hazel coppice—  
A boy and a girl, if the good fates please,  
    Making love, say,—  
    The happier they!

Draw yourself up from the light of the moon,  
And let them pass, as they will too soon,  
    With the bean flowers' boon,  
    And the blackbird's tune,  
    And May, and June!

What I love best in all the world  
Is a castle, precipice encurled,  
In a gash of the wind grieved Apennine  
Or look for me, old fellow of mine,  
(If I get my head from out the mouth  
O' the grave, and loose my spirit's bands,  
And come again to the land of lands)—  
In a sea side house to the farther South,  
Where the baked cicala dies of drouth,  
And one sharp tree—'tis a cypress—stands,  
By the many hundred years red rusted,  
Rough iron-spiked, ripe fruit o'ercrusted,  
My sentinel to guard the sands  
To the water's edge For, what expands  
Before the house, but the great opaque  
Blue breadth of sea without a break?  
While, in the house, for ever crumbles  
Some fragment of the frescoed walls,  
From blisters where a scorpion sprawls  
A girl bare footed brings, and tumbles  
Down on the pavement, green-flesh melons,  
And says there's news to day—the king  
Was shot at, touched in the liver wing,  
Goes with his Bourbon arm in a sling  
—She hopes they have not caught the felons.  
Italy, my Italy!  
Queen Mary's saying serves for me—  
    (When fortune's malice  
    Lost her—Calais)—



Open my heart and you will see  
 Graved inside of it, 'Italy'  
 Such lovers old are I and she  
 So it always was, so shall ever be!

## Evelyn Hope

### I.

BEAUTIFUL Evelyn Hope is dead!  
 Sit and watch by her side an hour  
 That is her book-shelf, this her bed,  
 She plucked that piece of geranium-flower,  
 Beginning to die too, in the glass,  
 Little has yet been changed, I think  
 The shutters are shut, no light may pass  
 Save two long rays thro' the hinge's chunk.

### II

Sixteen years old when she died!  
 Perhaps she had scarcely heard my name;  
 It was not her time to love, beside,  
 Her life had many a hope and aim,  
 Duties enough and little cares,  
 And now was quiet, now astir,  
 Till God's hand beckoned unawares,—  
 And the sweet white brow is all of her.

### III

Is it too late then, Evelyn Hope?  
 What, your soul was pure and true,  
 The good stars met in your horoscope,  
 Made you of spirit, fire, and dew—  
 And, just because I was thrice as old  
 And our paths in the world diverged so wide,  
 Each was nought to each, must I be told?  
 We were fellow mortals, nought beside?

## IV.

No, indeed ! for God above

Is great to grant, as mighty to make,  
And creates the love to reward the love

I claim you still, for my own love's sake !  
Delayed it may be for more lives yet,

Through worlds I shall traverse, not a few  
Much is to learn, much to forget

Ere the time be come for taking you

## V

But the time will come,—at last it will,

When, Evelyn Hope, what meant (I shall say)  
In the lower earth, in the years long still,

That body and soul so pure and gay ?  
Why your hair was amber, I shall divine,  
And your mouth of your own geranium's red—  
And what you would do with me, in fine,  
In the new life come in the old one's stead.

## VI

I have lived (I shall say) so much since then,

Given up myself so many times,  
Gained me the gains of various men,

Ransacked the ages, spoiled the climes ;  
Yet one thing, one, in my soul's full scope,

Either I missed or itself missed me  
And I want and find you, Evelyn Hope !  
What is the issue ? let us see !

## VII

I loved you, Evelyn, all the while

My heart seemed full as it could hold ?  
There was place and to spare for the frank young smile,  
And the red young mouth, and the hair's young gold

So, hush,—I will give you this leaf to keep  
See, I shut it inside the sweet cold hand !  
There, that is our secret go to sleep !  
You will wake, and remember, and understand.

### Prospice

FEAR death?—to feel the fog in my throat,  
The mist in my face,  
When the snows begin, and the blasts denote  
I am nearing the place,  
The power of the night, the press of the storm,  
The post of the foe,  
Where he stands, the Arch Fear in a visible form,  
Yet the strong man must go  
For the journey is done and the summit attained,  
And the barriers fall,  
Though a battle's to fight ere the guerdon be gained,  
The reward of it all  
I was ever a fighter so—one fight more,  
The best and the last !  
I would hate that death bandaged my eyes, and forbore,  
And bade me creep past  
No ! let me taste the whole of it, fare like my peers  
The heroes of old,  
Bear the brunt, in a minute pay glad life's arrears  
Of pain, darkness, and cold  
For sudden the worst turns the best to the brave,  
The black minute's at end,  
And the elements rage, the fiend-voices that rave,  
Shall dwindle, shall blend,  
Shall change shall become first a peace out of pain,  
Then a light, then thy breast,  
O thou soul of my soul ! I shall clasp thee again,  
And with God be the rest !

## JULIA WARD HOWE

## Battle Hymn of the American Republic

MINE eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the  
Lord

He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of  
wrath are stored ,

He hath loosed the fatal lightning of his terrible swift  
sword

His truth is marching on

I have seen him in the watch fires of a hundred circling  
camps ,

They have builded him an altar in the evening dews  
and damps ,

I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring  
lamps

His day is marching on

I have read a fiery gospel, writ in burnished rows of  
steel

' As ye deal with My contemners, so with you My  
grace shall deal ,

Let the Hero, born of woman, crush the serpent with  
his heel !

Since God is marching on '

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never  
call retreat .

He is sifting out the hearts of men before his Judgment  
Seat

O, be swift, my soul, to answer Him, be jubilant, my  
feet !

Our God is marching on.

I love her with a love as still  
As a broad river's peaceful might,  
Which, by high tower and lowly mill,  
Seems following its own wayward will  
And yet doth ever flow aright  
And, on its full, deep breast serene,  
Like quiet isles my duties lie,  
It flows around them and between,  
And makes them fresh and fair and green,  
Sweet homes wherein to live and die

## WALT WHITMAN

O Captain! My Captain

O CAPTAIN! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,  
The ship has weathered every rack, the prize we sought  
is won,

The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exult-  
ing,

While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and  
daring,

But O heart! heart! heart!

O the bleeding drops of red,

Where on the deck my Captain lies,

Fallen cold and dead

O Captain! my Captain! rise up and hear the bells,  
Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle  
trills,

For you bouquets and ribboned wreaths—for you the  
shores a crowding,

For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces  
turning,

Here Captain! dear father!

Thus am beneath your head!

It is some dream that on the deck

You've fallen cold and dead

My Captain does not answer his lips are pale and still  
My father does not feel my arm he has no pulse nor  
will

The ship is anchored safe and sound its voyage closed  
and done

From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object  
won

Exult O shore and ring O bells!

But I with mournful tread

Walk the deck my Captain lies

Fallen cold and dead

## The Lost Mate

ONCE in Puumanol

When the lilac scent was in the air, and Fifth month  
grass was growing

Up this sea shore in some briars

Two feathered guests from Alabama two together

And their nest and four light green eggs spotted with  
brown

And every day the he bird to and fro near at hand

And every day the she-bird crouched on her nest,  
silent with bright eyes

And every day I a curious boy never too close never  
disturbing them

Cautiously peering absorbing translating

Shine ! shine ! shine !  
Pour down your warmth, great sun,  
While we bask, we two together.

Two together !  
Winds blow south, or winds blow north,  
Day come white, or night come black,  
Home, or rivers and mountains from home,  
Singing all time, minding no time,  
While we two keep together

Till of a sudden,  
Maybe killed, unknown to her mate,  
One forenoon the she-bird crouched not on the nest,  
Nor returned that afternoon, nor the next,  
Nor ever appeared again

And thenceforward all summer in the sound of the sea,  
And at night under the full of the moon in calmer  
weather,  
Over the hoarse surging of the sea,  
Or flitting from briar to briar by day,  
I saw, I heard at intervals the remaining one, the  
he bird,  
The solitary guest from Alabama.

Blow ! blow ! blow !  
Blow up, sea winds, along Paumânok's shore !  
I wait and I wait till you blow my mate to me.

Yes, when the stars glistened,  
All night long on the prong of a moss-scalloped stake,  
Down almost amid the slapping waves,  
Sat the lone singer, wonderful, causing tears

He called on his mate,  
 He poured forth the meanings which I of all men  
 know.

Yes, my brother, I know,—  
 The rest might not, but I have treasured every note ;  
 For more than once dimly down to the beach gliding,  
 Silent, avoiding the moonbeam, blending myself with  
 the shadows,  
 Recalling now the obscure shapes, the echoes, the  
 sounds and sights after their sorts,  
 The white arms out in the breakers tirelessly tossing,  
 I, with bare feet, a child, the wind wafting my hair,  
 Listened long and long

Listened to keep, to sing, now translating the notes,  
 Following you, my brother

Soothe ! soothe ! soothe !  
 Close on its wave soothes the wave behind,  
 And again another behind, embracing and lapping  
 every one close,  
 But my love soothes not me, not me.

Low hangs the moon, it rose late,  
 It is lagging—O I think it is heavy with love, with  
 love !

O madly the sea pushes upon the land,  
 With love, with love !

O night ! do I not see my love fluttering out  
 among the breakers ?  
 What is that little black thing I see there in the  
 white ?



Loud ! loud ! loud !

Loud I call to you, my love !

High and clear I shoot my voice over the waves

Surely you must know who is here, is here,—

You must know who I am, my love !

Low-hanging moon !

What is that dusky spot in your brown yellow ?

O it is the shape, the shape of my mate !

O moon, do not keep her from me any longer !

Land ! land ! O land !

Whichever way I turn, O I think you could give me  
my mate back again if you only would !

For I am almost sure I see her dimly whichever  
way I look

O rising stars !

Perhaps the one I want so much will rise, will rise  
with some of you

O throat ! O trembling throat !

Sound clearer through the atmosphere :

Pierce the woods, the earth !

Somewhere listening to catch you must be the one  
I want.

Shake out carols !

Solitary here, the night's carols !

Carols of lonesome love, death's carols !

Carols under that lagging, yellow, waning moon !

O under that moon where she droops almost down  
into the sea,

O reckless, despairing carols !

## CHARLES KINGSLEY

*The Last Buccaneer*

OH England is a pleasant place for them that's rich  
and high,

But England is a cruel place for such poor folks as I,  
And such a port for mariners I ne'er shall see again  
As the pleasant Isle of Avès, beside the Spanish main

There were torty craft in Avès that were both swift  
and stout,

All furnished well with small arms and cannons round  
about,

And a thousand men in Avès made laws so fair and  
free

To choose their valiant captains and obey them  
loyally

Thence we sailed against the Spaniard with his hoards  
of plate and gold,

Which he wrung with cruel tortures from Indian folk  
of old,

Likewise the merchant captains, with hearts as hard  
as stone,

Who flog men and keel-haul them, and starve them  
to the bone

Oh the palms grew high in Aves, and fruits that shone  
like gold,

And the colibris and parrots they were gorgeous to  
behold,

And the negro maids to Aves from bondage fast did  
flee,

To welcome gallant sailors, a-sweeping in from sea,

Oh sweet it was in Avès to hear the landward breeze,  
A-swing with good tobacco in a net between the trees,  
With a negro lass to fan you, while you listened to  
the roar

Of the breakers on the reef outside, that never touched  
the shore

But Scripture saith, an ending to all fine things must  
be,

So the King's ships sailed on Avès, and quite put  
down were we

All day we fought like bulldogs, but they burst the  
booms at night,

And I fled in a piragua, sore wounded, from the fight

Nine days I floated starving, and a negro lass beside,  
Till for all I tried to cheer her, the poor young thing  
she died,

But as I lay a gasping, a Bristol sail came by,  
And brought me home to England here, to beg until  
I die

And now I'm old and going—I'm sure I can't tell  
where,

One comfort is, this world's so hard, I can't be worse  
off there

If I might but be a sea dove, I'd fly across the main,  
To the pleasant Isle of Avès to look at it once again

### Young and Old

WHEN all the world is young, lad,  
And all the trees are green,  
And every goose a swan, lad,  
And every lass a queen,

Then hey for boot and horse, lad,  
And round the world away,  
Young blood must have its course, lad,  
And every dog his day

When all the world is old lad,  
And all the trees are brown,  
And all the sport is stale, lad,  
And all the wheels run down,  
Creep home, and take your place there,  
The spent and maimed among—  
God grant you find one face there  
You loved when all was young

## ARTHUR HUGH CLOUGH

## Green fields of England

GREEN fields of England! whereso'er  
Across this watery waste we fare  
Your image at our hearts we bear,  
Green fields of England, everywhere

Sweet eyes in England, I must flee  
Past where the waves' last confines be,  
Ere your loved smile I cease to see,  
Sweet eyes in England, dear to me

Dear home in England, safe and fast  
If but in thee my lot be cast,  
The past shall seem a nothing past  
To thee, dear home, if won at last,  
Dear home in England, won at last

Where lies the land to which the ship would go ?

WHERE lies the land to which the ship would go ?

Far, far ahead, is all her seamen know

And where the land she travels from ? Away,

Far, far behind, is all that they can say

On sunny noons upon the deck's smooth face,

Linked arm in arm, how pleasant here to pace,

Or o'er the stern reching, watch below

The foaming wake far widening as we go

On stormy nights when wild north-westerns rave,

How proud a thing to fight with wind and wave !

The dripping sailor on the reeling mast

Exults to bear and scorns to wish it past

Where lies the land to which the ship would go ?

Far, far ahead, is all her seamen know

And where the land she travels from ? Away,

Far, far behind, is all that they can say

Say not the struggle naught availeth

SAY not the struggle naught availeth

The labour and the wounds are vain,

The enemy faints not, nor faileth,

And as things have been they remain

If hopes were dupes, fears may be bars,

It may be in yon smoke concealed

Your comrades chase e'en now the fliers,

And but for you, possess the field

For while the tired waves, vainly breaking,

Seem here no painful inch to gain,

Far back, through creeks and inlets making

Comes silent flooding in, the main

And not by eastern windows only,  
When daylight comes, comes in the light,  
In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly,  
But westward, look, the land is bright!

## MATTHEW ARNOLD

## Song of Callicles

THROUGH the black, rushing smoke bursts,  
Thick breaks the red flame,  
All Etna heaves fiercely  
Her forest clothed frame

Not here, O Apollo!  
Are haunts meet for thee  
But, where Helicon breaks down  
In cliff to the sea,

Where the moon-silvered inlets  
Send far their light voice  
Up the still vale of Thisbe,  
O speed, and rejoice!

On the sward at the cliff-top  
Lie strewn the white flocks,  
On the cliff side the pigeons  
Roost deep in the rocks

In the moonlight the shepherds,  
Soft lulled by the rills,  
Lie wrapt in their blankets  
Asleep on the hills

—What forms are these coming  
So white through the gloom?  
What garments out glistening  
The gold-flowered broom?

What sweet-breathing presence  
Out-perfumes the thyme ?  
What voices enrapture  
The night's balmy prime ?—

'Tis Apollo comes leading  
His choir, the Nine  
—The leader is fairest,  
But all are divine

They are lost in the hollows !  
They stream up again !  
What seeks on this mountain  
The glorified train ?—

They bathe on this mountain,  
In the spring by their road,  
Then on to Olympus,  
Their endless abode

—Whose praise do they mention ?  
Of what is 't told ?—  
What will be for ever,  
What was from of old

First hymn they the Father  
Of all things, and then,  
The rest of immortals,  
The action of men,

The day in his hotness  
The strife with the palm ;  
The night in her silence,  
The stars in their calm

## Memorial Verses (April, 1850)

GOETHE in Weimar sleeps, and Greece,  
Long since, saw Byron's struggle cease.  
But one such death remained to come;  
The last poetic voice is dumb—  
We stand to-day by Wordsworth's tomb.

When Byron's eyes were shut in death,  
We bowed our head and held our breath.  
He taught us little, but our soul  
Had *felt* him like the thunder's roll  
With shivering heart the strife we saw  
Of passion with eternal law,  
And yet with reverential awe  
We watched the fount of fiery life  
Which served for that Titanic strife

When Goethe's death was told, we said:  
Sunk, then, is Europe's sagest head  
Physician of the iron age,  
Goethe has done his pilgrimage  
He took the suffering human race,  
He read each wound, each weakness clear;  
And struck his finger on the place,  
And said *Thou artlest here, and here!*  
He looked on Europe's dying hour  
Of fitful dream and feverish power,  
His eye plunged down the weltering strife,  
The turmoil of expiring life—  
He said *The end is everywhere,  
Art still has truth, take refuge there!*  
And he was happy, if to know  
Causes of things, and far below  
His feet to see the lurid flow  
Of terror, and insane distress,  
And headlong fate, be happiness.



And Wordsworth!—Ah, pale ghosts rejoice!  
For never has such soothing voice  
Been to your shadowy world conveyed,  
Since erst, at morn, some wandering shade  
Heard the clear song of Orpheus come  
Through Hades, and the mournful gloom  
Wordsworth has gone from us—and ye,  
Ah, may ye feel his voice as we!

He too upon a wintry chime  
Had fallen—on this iron time  
Of doubts, disputes, distractions, fears  
He found us when the age had bound  
Our souls in its benumbing round,  
He spoke, and loosed our heart in tears  
He hush'd us as we lay at birth  
On the cool flowery lap of earth  
Smiles broke from us, and we had ease,  
The hills were round us, and the breeze  
Went o'er the sun-lit fields again  
Our foreheads felt the wind and rain  
Our youth returned, for there was shed  
On spirits that had long been dead,  
Spirits dried up and closely furled,  
The freshness of the early world

Ah! since dark days still bring to light  
Man's prudence and man's fiery might,  
Time may restore us in his course  
Goethe's sage mind and Byron's force;  
But where will Europe's latter hour  
Again find Wordsworth's healing power?

Others will teach us how to dare,  
And against fear our breast to steel;  
Others will strengthen us to bear—  
But who, ah! who, will make us feel?

The cloud of mortal destiny,  
Others will front it fearlessly—  
But who, like him, will put it by?

Keep fresh the grass upon his grave  
O Rotha, with thy living wave!  
Sing him thy best! for few or none  
Hears thy voice right, now he is gone.

### Shakespeare

OTHERS abide our question    Thou art free  
We ask and ask—Thou smilest and art still,  
Out topping knowledge    For the loftiest hill,  
Who to the stars uncrowns his majesty,

Planting his steadfast footsteps in the sea,  
Making the heaven of heavens his dwelling-place,  
Spares but the cloudy border of his base  
To the foiled searching of mortality,

And thou, who didst the stars and sunbeams know,  
Self schooled, self scanned, self-honoured, self secure,  
Didst tread on earth unguessed at—Better so!

All pains the immortal spirit must endure,  
All weakness which impairs, all griefs which bow,  
Find their sole speech in that victorious brow

### Requiescat

STREW on her roses, roses,  
And never a spray of yew!  
In quiet she reposes,  
Ah, would that I did too!

Her mirth the world required,  
She bathed it in smiles of glee.  
But her heart was tired, tired,  
And now they let her be

Her life was turning, turning,  
In mazes of heat and sound  
But for peace her soul was yearning,  
And now peace laps her round

Her cabined, ample spirit,  
It fluttered and failed for breath.  
To-night it doth inherit  
The vasty hall of death.

### The Last Word

CREEP into thy narrow bed,  
Creep, and let no more be said !  
Vain thy onset ! all stands fast  
Thou thyself must break at last

Let the long contention cease !  
Geese are swans, and swans are geese  
Let them have it how they will !  
Thou art tired, best be still

They out-talked thee, lussed thee, tore thee ?  
Better men fared thus before thee,  
Fired their ringing shot and passed,  
Hotly charged—and sank at last

Charge once more, then, and be dumb  
Let the victors, when they come,  
When the forts of folly fall,  
Find thy body by the wall !

## WILLIAM (JOHNSON) CORY

## Heracitus

THEY told me, Heracitus, they told me you were dead,  
 They brought me bitter news to hear and bitter tears  
 to shed

I wept as I remembered how often you and I  
 Had tired the sun with talking and sent him down  
 the sky

And now that thou art lying, my dear old Carian  
 guest,

A handful of grey ashes, long, long ago at rest,  
 Still are thy pleasant voices, thy nightingales, awake,  
 For Death, he taketh all away, but them he cannot  
 take

## SYDNEY THOMPSON DOBELL

## America

NOR force nor fraud shall sunder us ! O ye  
 Who north or south, on east or western land,  
 Native to noble sounds, say truth for truth,  
 Freedom for freedom, love for love, and God  
 For God Oh ye who in eternal youth  
 Speak with a living and creative flood  
 Thus universal English, and do stand  
 Its breathing book, live worthy of that grand  
 Heroic utterance—parted, yet a whole,  
 Far, yet unsevered,—children brave and free  
 Of the great Mother tongue, and ye shall be  
 Lords of an Empire wide as Shakespeare's soul,  
 Sublime as Milton's immemorial theme,  
 And rich as Chaucer's speech, and fair as Spenser's  
 dream

## GEORGE MEREDITH

## The Lark ascending

HE rises and begins to round,  
 He drops the silver chain of sound,  
 Of many links without a break,  
 In chirrup, whistle, slur and shake,  
 All interwoven and spreading wide,  
 Like water dimples down a tide  
 Where ripple ripple overcurl  
 And eddy into eddy whirls,  
 A press of hurried notes that run  
 So fleet they scarce are more than one,  
 Yet changeingly the trills repeat  
 And linger ringing while they fleet,  
 Sweet to the quick o' the ear, and dear  
 To her beyond the handmaid ear  
 Who sits beside our inner springs,  
 Too often dry for this he brings,  
 What seems the very jet of earth  
 At sight of sun, her music's mirth,  
 As up he wings the spiral stair  
 A song of light, and pierces air  
 With fountain ardour, fountain play,  
 To reach the shining tops of day,  
 And drink in everything discerned  
 An ecstasy to music turned

## CHRISTINA GEORGINA ROSSETTI

## A Birthday

My heart is like a singing bird  
 Whose nest is in a watered shoot;  
 My heart is like an apple-tree  
 Whose boughs are bent with thick set fruit;

My heart is like a rainbow shell  
 That paddles in a halcyon sea ;  
 My heart is gladder than all these,  
 Because my love is come to me

*Raise me a dais of silk and down ;*  
*Hang it with vair and purple dyes ;*  
*Carve it in doves and pomegranates,*  
*And peacocks with a hundred eyes ;*  
*Work it in gold and silver grapes,*  
*In leaves and silver fleurs-de-lys ,*  
 Because the birthday of my life  
 Is come, my love is come to me.

### Uphill

Does the road wind uphill all the way ?  
 Yes, to the very end  
 Will the day's-journey take the whole long day ?  
 From morn to night, my friend.

But is there for the night a resting-place ?  
 A roof for when the slow, dark hours begin.  
 May not the darkness hide it from my face ?  
 You cannot miss that inn

Shall I meet other wayfarers at night ?  
 Those who have gone before  
 Then must I knock, or call when just in sight ?  
 They will not keep you waiting at that door.

Shall I find comfort, travel-sore and weak ?  
 Of labour you shall find the sum.  
 Will there be beds for me and all who seek ?  
 Yea, beds for all who come.

## Song

WHEN I am dead my dearest  
Sing no sad songs for me  
Plant thou no roses at my head  
Nor shady cypress tree  
Be the green grass above me  
With showers and dewdrops wet  
And if thou wilt remember  
And if thou wilt forget

I shall not see the shadows  
I shall not feel the rain  
I shall not hear the nightingale  
Sing on as if in pain  
And dreaming through the twilight  
That doth not rise nor set  
Haply I may remember  
And haply may forget

## Remember

REMEMBER me when I am gone away,  
Gone far away into the silent land  
When you can no more hold me by the hand  
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stray  
Remember me when no more day by day  
You tell me of our future that you planned  
Only remember me you understand  
It will be late to counsel then or pray  
Yet if you should forget me for a while  
And afterwards remember do not grieve  
For if the darkness and corruption leave  
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had  
Better by far you should forget and smile  
Than that you should remember and be sad

## ADAM LINDSAY GORDON

## From the Wreck

'TURN out, boys'—'What's up with our super to-night?'

The man's mad—Two hours to daybreak I'd swear—  
Stark mad—why, there isn't a glimmer of light'

'Take Bolingbroke, Alec, give Jack the young mare,  
Look sharp A large vessel lies jammed on the reef,  
And many on board still, and some washed on shore  
Ride straight with the news—they may send some  
relief

From the township, and we—we can do little more  
You, Alec, you know the near cuts, you can cross  
The "Sugarloaf" ford with a scramble I think,  
Don't spare the blood filly, nor yet the black horse,  
Should the wind rise, God help them! the ship will  
soon sink

Old Peter's away down the paddock, to drive  
The nags to the stockyard as fast as he can—  
A life and death matter, so, lads, look alive,  
Half-dressed, in the dark to the stockyard we ran

There was bridling with hurry, and saddling with  
haste,

Confusion and cursing for lack of a moon,  
'Be quick with these buckles, we've no time to waste',  
'Mind the mare, she can use her hind legs to some  
tune'

'Make sure of the crossing place, strike the old track,  
They've fenced off the new one, look out for the holes  
On the wombat hills' 'Down with the slip rails,  
stand back'

'And ride boys the pair of you, ride for your souls.'



In the low branches heavily laden with dew,  
 In the long grasses spoiling with deadwood that day,  
 Where the blackwood, the box, and the bastard oak  
 grew,

Between the tall gum-trees we galloped away—  
 We crashed through a brush fence, we splashed through  
 a swamp—

We steered for the north near 'The Eaglehawk's  
 Nest'—  
 We bore to the left, just beyond 'The Red Camp,'  
 And round the black tea-tree belt wheeled to the  
 west—

We crossed a low range sickly scented with musk  
 From wattle-tree blossom—we skirted a marsh—  
 Then the dawn faintly dappled with orange the dusk,  
 And pealed overhead the jay's laughter note harsh,  
 And shot the first sunstreak behind us, and soon

The dim dewy uplands were dreamy with light,  
 And full on our left flashed 'the reedy lagoon,'  
 And sharply 'the Sugarloaf' reared on our right  
 A smothered curse broke through the bushman's  
 brown beard,

He turned in his saddle, his brick coloured cheek  
 Flushed feebly with sun dawn, said, 'Just what I  
 feared

Last fortnight's late rainfall has flooded the creek'

Black Bolingbroke snorted and stood on the brink  
 One instant, then deep in the dark, sluggish swirl  
 Plunged headlong I saw the horse suddenly sink,  
 Till round the man's armpits the wave seemed to  
 curl

We followed,—one cold shock, and deeper we sank  
 Than they did, and twice tried the landing in vain,

The third struggle won it , straight up the steep bank  
We staggered, then out on the skirts of the plain

The stockrider, Alec, at starting had got  
The lead, and had kept it throughout , 'twas his  
boast

That through thickest of scrub he could steer like a  
shot,

And the black horse was counted the best on the  
coast,

The mare had been awkward enough in the dark,  
She was eager and headstrong, and barely half  
broke ,

She had had me too close to a big stringybark,  
And had made a near thing of a crooked she-oak ,  
And now on the open, lit up by the morn,

She flung the white foam flakes from nostril to neck,  
And chased him—I hatless with shirt sleeves all torn  
(For he may ride ragged who rides from a wreck)—  
And faster and faster across the wide heath

We rode till we raced Then I gave her her head,  
And she—stretching out with the bit in her teeth—  
She caught him, outpaced him, and passed him,  
and led

We neared the new fence , we were wide of the track ,  
I looked right and left—she had never been tried  
At a stiff leap 'Twas little he cared on the black  
' You're more than a mile from the gateway,' he  
cried

I hung to her head, touched her flank with the spurs  
(In the red streak of rail not the ghost of a gap)  
She shortened her long stroke, she pricked her sharp  
ears,  
She flung it behind her with hardly a rap—

I saw the post quiver where Bohngbroke struck,  
And guessed that the pace we had come the last  
mile

Had blown him a bit (he could jump like a buck).  
We galloped more steadily then for a while

The heath was soon passed, in the dim distance lay  
The mountain The sun was just clearing the tips  
Of the ranges to eastward The mare—could she  
stay?

She was bred very nearly as clean as Eclipse;  
She led, and as oft as he came to her side,  
She took the bit free and untiring as yet,  
Her neck was arched double, her nostrils were wide,  
And the tips of her tapering ears nearly met—  
'You're lighter than I am,' said Alec at last,  
'The horse is dead beat and the mare isn't blown.  
She must be a good one—ride on and ride fast,  
You know your way now' So I rode on alone.

Still galloping forward we passed the two flocks  
At M'Intyre's hut and M'Allister's hill—  
She was galloping strong at the Warrigal Rocks—  
On the Wallaby Range she was galloping still—  
And over the wasteland and under the wood,  
By down and by dale, and by fell and by flat,  
She galloped, and here in the stirrups I stood  
To ease her, and there in the saddle I sat  
To steer her We suddenly struck the red loam  
Of the track near the troughs—then she reeled on  
the rise—  
From her crest to her croup covered over with foam,  
And blood red her nostrils and bloodshot her eyes,  
A dip in the dell where the wattle fire bloomed—  
A bend round a bank that had shut out the view—

Large framed in the mild light the mountain had  
loomed,

With a tall purple peak bursting out from the blue

I pulled her together, I pressed her, and she

Shot down the decline to the Company's yard,

And on by the paddocks, yet under my knee

I could feel her heart thumping the saddle-flaps  
hard

Yet a mile and another, and now we were near

The goal, and the fields and the farms flitted past,

And 'twixt the two fences I turned with a cheer,

For a green grass fed mare 'twas a far thing and  
fast

And labourers roused by her galloping hoofs,

Saw bare headed rider and foam sheeted steed,

And shone the white walls and the slate coloured roofs

Of the township, I steadied her then—I had need—

Where stood the old chapel (where stands the new  
church—

Since chapels to churches have changed in that  
town)

A short, sidelong stagger, a long forward lurch,

A slight clogging sob, and the mare had gone down

I slipped off the bridle, I slackened the girth,

I ran on and left her and told them my news,

I saw her soon afterwards What was she worth?

How much for her hide? She had never worn  
shoes

## WILLIAM MORRIS

## The Winning of the Golden Fleece

BUT Jason, going swiftly with good heart,  
Came to the wished for shrine built all apart  
Midmost the temple, that on pillars stood  
Of jasper green, and marble red as blood,  
All white itself and carven cunningly  
With Neptune bringing from the wavy sea  
The golden shining ram of Athamas,  
And the first door thereof of silver was,  
Wrought over with a golden glittering sun  
That seemed well-nigh alike the heavenly one.  
Such art therein the cunningest of men  
Had used, which little Jason heeded then,  
But thrusting in the lock the smallest key  
Of those he bore, it opened easily,  
And then five others, neither wrought of gold,  
Nor carved with tales, nor lovely to behold,  
He opened, but before the last one stayed  
His hand, wherein the heavy key he weighed,  
And pondering, spake a low and muttered word —  
‘ The prize is reached, which yet I am afraid  
To draw unto me, since I know indeed,  
That henceforth war and toil shall be my meed —  
Too late to fear, it was too late, the hour  
I left the grey cliffs and the beechen bower,  
So here I take bard life and deathless praise,  
Who once was fain of nought but quiet days,  
And painless life, not empty of delight,  
I, who shall now be quickener of the fight,  
Named by a great name—a far babbled name,  
The ceaseless seeker after praise and fame  
‘ May all be well, and on the noisy ways  
Still may I find some wealth of happy days ’

Therewith he threw the last door open wide,  
Whose hammered iron did the marvel hide,  
And shut his dazzled eyes, and stretched his hands  
Out toward the sea-born wonder of all lands,  
And plunged them deep within the locks of gold,  
Grasping the Fleece within his mighty hold

Which when Medea saw, her gown of grey  
She caught up from the ground, and drew away  
Her wearied foot from off the rugged beast,  
And while from her soft strain she never ceased,  
In the dull folds she hid her silk from sight  
And then, as bending 'neath the burden bright,  
Jason drew nigh, joyful, yet still afraid,  
She met him, and her wide grey mantle laid  
Over the Fleece, whispering 'Make no delay;  
He sleeps, who never slept by night or day  
Till now, nor will his charmed sleep be long  
Light foot am I, and sure thine arms are strong,  
Haste, then! No word! nor turn thine eyes aback,  
As he who erst on Hermes' shadowy track  
Turned round to see once more the twice-lost face'

Then swiftly did they leave the dreadful place,  
Turning no look behind, and reached the street,  
That with familiar look and kind did greet  
Those wanderers, mazed with marvels and with fear  
And so, unchallenged, did they draw anear  
The long white quays, and at the street's end now  
Beheld the ships' masts standing row by row  
Stark black against the stars then cautiously  
Peered Jason forth, ere they took heart to try  
The open starlit place, but naught he saw  
Except the night wind twitching the loose straw  
From half-unloaded keels and nought he heard

But the strange twittering of a caged green bird  
Within an Indian ship, and from the hull  
A distant baying, dead night lay so still,  
Somewhat they doubted, nathless forth they passed,  
And Argo's painted sides they reached at last

Then saw Medea men like shadows grey,  
Rise from the darksome decks, who took straightway  
With murmured joy, from Jason's outstretched hands,  
The conquered Fleece, the wonder of all lands,  
While with strong arms he raised the royal maid,  
And in their hold the precious burthen laid,  
And scarce her dainty feet could touch the deck,  
Ere down he leapt, and little now did reck  
That loudly clanged his armour therewithal

But, turning downward, did Medea call —  
'O noble Jason, and ye heroes strong,  
To sea, to sea! nor pray ye loiter long,  
For surely shall ye see the beacons flare  
Ere in mid stream ye are, and running fair  
On toward the sea with tide, and oar, and sail  
My father wakes, nor bides he to bewail  
His loss and me, I see his turret gleam  
As he goes towards the beacon, and down stream  
Absyrtus lurks before the sandy bar  
In mighty keel well manned and dight for war'

But as she spoke, rattling the cable shipped  
From out the hawse hole, and the long oars dipped  
As from the quays the heroes pushed away,  
And in the loosened sail the wind 'gan play,  
But e'en as they unto the stroke leaned back,  
And Nauphus, catching at the main sheet slack,  
Had drawn it taut, out flared the beacon wide,  
Lighting the waves, and they heard folk who cried.  
'Awake, awake, awake, O Colchian folk!'  
And all about the blare of horns outbroke,

As watch-tower answered watch-tower down the  
stream,

Where far below they saw the bale-fires gleam ;  
And galloping of horses now they heard,  
And clang of arms, and cries of men afeard ;  
For now the merchant mariners who lay  
About the town, thought surely an ill day  
Had dawned upon them while they slept at ease,  
And, half awake, pushed madly from the quays  
With crash of breaking oars and meeting ships,  
And cries and curses from outlandish lips ,  
So fell the quiet night to turmoil sore,  
While in the towers, high over din and roar,  
Melodiously the bells began to ring

But Argo, leaping forward to the swing  
Of measured oars, and leaning to the breeze,  
Sped swiftly 'twixt the dark and whispering trees

*(From The Life and Death of Jason)*

## ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE

### Itylus

SWALLOW, my sister, O sister swallow,

How can thine heart be full of the Spring ?

A thousand Summers are over and dead

What hast thou found in the Spring to follow ?

What hast thou found in thine heart to sing ?

What wilt thou do when the Summer is shed ?

O swallow, sister, O fair, swift swallow,

Why wilt thou fly after Spring to the south,

The soft south whither thine heart is set ?

Shall not the grief of the old time follow ?

Shall not the song thereof cleave to thy mouth ?

Hast thou forgotten ere I forget ?



Sister, my sister, O fleet, sweet swallow,  
The way is long to the sun and the south ;  
But I, fulfilled of my heart's desire,  
Shedding my song upon height, upon hollow,  
From tawny body and sweet, small mouth  
Feed the heart of the night with fire

I, the nightingale, all Spring through,  
O swallow, sister, O changing swallow,  
All Spring through till the Spring be done,  
Clothed with the light of the night on the dew,  
Sing while the hours and the wild birds follow,  
Take flight and follow, and find the sun

Sister, my sister, O soft, light swallow,  
Through all things feast in the Spring's guest-  
chamber,  
How hast thou heart to be glad thereof yet ?  
For where thou fleest I shall not follow  
Till life forget and death remember,  
Till thou remember and I forget

Swallow, my sister, O singing swallow,  
I know not how thou hast heart to sing  
Hast thou the heart ? Is it all passed over ?  
Thy lord, the Summer, is good to follow,  
And fair the feet of thy lover, the Spring ,  
But what wilt thou say to the Spring, thy lover ?

O swallow, sister, O fleeting swallow,  
My heart in me is a molten ember,  
And over my head the waves have met.  
But thou wouldst tarry or I would follow,  
Could I forget or thou remember,  
Couldst thou remember and I forget.

O sweet, stray sister, O shifting swallow,  
 The heart's division divideth us  
 Thy heart is light as a leaf of a tree,  
 But mine goes forth among sea-gulfs hollow  
 To the place of the slaying of Itylus,  
 The feast of Daulis, the Thracian sea.

O swallow, sister, O rapid swallow,  
 I pray thee sing not a little space  
 Are not the roofs and the lintels wet?  
 The woven web that was plain to follow,  
 The small slain body, the flower-like face,  
 Can I remember if thou forget?

O sister, sister, thy first-begotten!  
 The hands that cling and the feet that follow!  
 The voice of the child's blood crying yet,  
 'Who hath remembered me? Who hath forgotten?'  
 Thou hast forgotten, O summer swallow,  
 But the world shall end when I forget.

### Child's Song

WHAT is gold worth, say,  
 Worth for work or play,  
 Worth to keep or pay,  
 Hide or throw away,  
 Hope about or fear?  
 What is love worth, pray?  
 Worth a tear?

Golden on the mould  
 Lie the dead leaves rolled  
 Of the wet woods old,  
 Yellow leaves and cold,  
 Woods without a dove;  
 Gold is worth but gold,  
 Love's worth love

## A Forsaken Garden

IN a coign of the cliff between lowland and highland,  
At the sea-down's edge between windward and lee,  
Walled round with rocks as an inland island,  
The ghost of a garden fronts the sea  
A girdle of brushwood and thorn encloses  
The steep square slope of the blossomless bed  
Where the weeds that grew green from the graves of  
its roses  
Now he dead

The fields fall southward, abrupt and broken,  
To the low last edge of the long lone land.  
If a step should sound or a word be spoken,  
Would a ghost not rise at the strange guest's hand ?  
So long have the grey bare walks lain guestless,  
Through branches and briars if a man make way,  
He shall find no life but the sea-wind's restless  
Night and day.

The dense hard passage is blind and stifled  
That crawls by a track none turn to climb  
To the strait waste place that the years have rifled  
Of all but the thorns that are touched not of time  
The thorns he spares when the rose is taken,  
The rocks are left when he wastes the plain  
The wind that wanders, the weeds wind-shaken,  
These remain

Not a flower to be pressed of the foot that falls not  
As the heart of a dead man the seed plots are dry,  
From the thicket of thorns whence the nightingale calls  
not,  
Could she call, there were never a rose to reply

Over the meadows that blossom and wither  
 Rings but the note of a sea-bird's song,  
 Only the sun and the rain come hither  
 All year long

The sun burns sere and the rain dishevels  
 One gaunt bleak blossom of scentless breath  
 Only the wind here hovers and revels  
 In a round where life seems barren as death  
 Here there was laughing of old, there was weeping,  
 Haply, of lovers none ever will know,  
 Whose eyes went seaward a hundred sleeping  
 Years ago

Heart handfast in heart as they stood, 'Look thither,'  
 Did he whisper? 'look forth from the flowers to  
 the sea,  
 For the foam flowers endure when the rose blossoms  
 wither,  
 And men that love lightly may die—but we?'  
 And the same wind sang and the same waves whitened,  
 And or ever the garden's last petals were shed  
 In the lips that had whispered, the eyes that had  
 lightened,  
 Love was dead

Or they loved their life through, and then went  
 whither?  
 And were one to the end—but what end who knows?  
 Love deep as the sea as a rose must wither,  
 As the rose red seaweed that mocks the rose  
 Shall the dead take thought for the dead to love them?  
 What love was ever as deep as a grave?  
 They are loveless now as the grass above them  
 Or the wave.

All are at one now, roses and lovers,

Not known of the cliffs and the fields and the sea  
Not a breath of the time that has been hovers

In the air now soft with a summer to be  
Not a breath shall there sweeten the seasons hereafter  
Of the flowers or the lovers that laugh now or weep,  
When as they that are free now of weeping and  
laughter

We shall sleep

Here death may deal not again for ever ;

Here change may come not till all change end  
From the graves they have made they shall rise up  
never,

Who have left nought living to ravage and rend  
Earth, stones, and thorns of the wild ground growing,

While the sun and the rain live these shall be,  
Till a last wind's breath upon all these blowing  
Roll the sea

Till the slow sea rise and the sheer cliff crumble,

Till terrace and meadow the deep gulfs drink,  
Till the strength of the waves of the high tides humble

The fields that lessen, the rocks that shrink,  
Here now in his triumph where all things falter,

Stretched out on the spoils that his own hand spread,  
As a god self slain on his own strange altar,

Death lies dead

### BRET HARTE

#### Dickens in Camp

ABOVE the pines the moon was slowly drifting,  
The river sang below.

The dim Sierras far beyond, uplifting  
Their minarets of snow

The roaring camp-fire, with rude humour, painted  
The ruddy tints of health  
On haggard face and form that drooped and fainted,  
In the fierce race for wealth

Till one arose, and from his pack's scant treasure  
A hoarded volume drew,  
And cards were dropped from hands of listless leisure,  
To hear the tale anew

And then, while round them shadows gathered faster,  
And as the firebght fell,  
He read aloud the book wherein the Master  
Had writ of 'Little Nell'

Perhaps 'twas boyish fancy, for the reader  
Was youngest of them all,  
But, as he read, from clustering pine and cedar  
A silence seemed to fall.

The fir-trees, gathering closer in the shadows,  
Listened in every spray,  
While the whole camp, with 'Nell' on English meadows,  
Wandered, and lost their way.

And so, in mountain solitudes, o'ertaken  
As by some spell divine,  
Their cares dropped from them, like the needles  
shaken  
From out the gusty pine.

Lost is that camp, and wasted all its fire  
And he who wrought that spell  
Ah, towering pine and stately Kentish spire,  
Ye have one tale to tell !

Her voice in the distance is lofty and loud,  
Thro' its echoing gorges,  
She hath hidden her eyes in a mantle of cloud,  
And her feet in the surges !

On the top of the hills, on the turreted cones—  
Chief temples of thunder—  
The gale, like a ghost in the middle watch moans,  
Gliding over and under  
The sea, flying white through the rack and the rain  
Leapeth wild to the forelands  
And the plover, whose cry is like passion with pain,  
Complains in the moorlands

O, season of changes, of shadow and shine,  
September the splendid !  
My song hath no music to mingle with thine,  
And its burden is ended,  
But thou, being born of the winds and the sun,  
By mountain, by river,  
May lighten and listen, and loiter and run,  
With thy voices for ever

## ROBERT BRIDGES

### A Passer-By

WHITHER, O splendid ship, thy white sails crowding,  
Leaning across the bosom of the urgent West,  
That fearest nor sea rising, nor sky clouding,  
Whither away, fair rover, and what thy quest ?  
Ah ! soon, when Winter has all our vales opprest,  
When skies are cold and misty, and hail is hurling,  
Wilt thou glide on the blue Pacific, or rest  
In a summer haven asleep, thy white sails furling

I there before thee, in the country that well thou knowest,

Already arrived am inhaling the odorous air  
I watch thee enter unerringly where thou goest,  
And anchor, queen of the strange shipping there,  
Thy sails for awnings spread, thy masts bare  
Nor is aught from the foaming reef to the snow-capped  
grandest

Peak, that is over the feathery palms, more fair  
Than thou, so upright, so stately, and still thou standest

And yet, O splendid ship, unhailed and nameless,  
I know not if, auring a fancy, I rightly divine  
That thou hast a purpose joyful, a courage blameless,  
Thy port assured in a happier land than mine  
But for all I have given thee, beauty enough is thine,  
As thou, aslant with trim tackle and shrouding,  
From the proud nostril curve of a prow's line  
In the offing scatterest foam, thy white sails crowding.

### The Fair Brass

AN effigy of brass  
Trodden by careless feet  
Of worshippers that pass,  
Beautiful and complete,

Lieth in the sombre aisle  
Of this old church unwreckt,  
And still from modern style  
Shielded by kind neglect



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In a summer haven asleep, thy white sails furling

Heirs of our antique shrines,  
Sires of our future fame,  
Whose starry honour shines  
In many a noble name.

Across the deathful days,  
Linked in the brotherhood  
That loves our country's praise,  
And lives for heavenly good.

## ANDREW LANG

## The Odyssey

As one that for a weary space has lain  
Lulled by the song of Circe and her wine  
In gardens near the pale of Proserpine,  
Where that Æëan isle forgets the main,  
And only the low lutes of love complain,  
And only shadows of wan lovers pine—  
As such an one were glad to know the brine  
Salt on his lips, and the large air again,—  
So gladly, from the songs of modern speech  
Men turn, and see the stars, and feel the free  
Shrill wind beyond the close of heavy flowers,  
And through the music of the languid hours  
They hear like Ocean on the western beach  
The surge and thunder of the Odyssey

It shows a warrior armed  
Across his iron breast  
His hands by death are charmed  
To leave his sword at rest,

Wherewith he led his men  
O'ersea, and smote to hell  
The astonisht Saracen,  
Nor doubted he did well

Would we could teach our sons  
His trust in face of doom,  
Or give our bravest ones  
A comparable tomb

Such as to look on shrives  
The heart of half its care ;  
So in each line survives  
The spirit that made it fair ;

So fair the characters,  
With which the dusty scroll,  
That tells his title, stirs  
A requiem for his soul

Yet dearer far to me,  
And brave as he are they,  
Who fight by land and sea  
For England at this day ,

Whose vile memorials,  
In mournful marbles gilt,  
Deface the beauteous walls  
By growing glory built

They call you proud and hard,  
England, my England  
You with worlds to watch and ward,  
England, my own !  
You whose mailed hand keeps the keys  
Of such teeming destinies,  
You could know nor dread nor ease  
Were the Song on your bugles blown,  
England,  
Round the Pit on your bugles blown !

Mother of Ships whose might,  
England, my England,  
Is the fierce old Sea's delight,  
England, my own,  
Chosen daughter of the Lord,  
Spouse in-Chief of the ancient Sword,  
There's the menace of the Word  
In the Song on your bugles blown,  
England—  
Out of heaven on your bugles blown !

### Margaritæ Sorori

A LATE lark twitters from the quiet skies  
And from the west,  
Where the sun, *his day's work ended*,  
Lingers as in content,  
There falls on the old, gray city  
An influence luminous and serene,  
A shining peace

The smoke ascends  
In a *rosy and golden haze*    The spires  
Shine and are changed    In the valley

## WILLIAM ERNEST HENLEY

England, my England

WHAT have I done for you,

England, my England?

What is there I would not do,

England, my own?

With your glorious eyes austere,

As the Lord were walking near,

Whispering terrible things and dear

As the Song on your bugles blown,

England—

Round the world on your bugles blown!

Where shall the watchful sun,

England my England,

Match the master work you've done,

England, my own?

When shall he rejoice again

Such a breed of mighty men

As come forward, one to ten,

To the Song on your bugles blown,

England—

Down the years on your bugles blown?

Ever the faith endures,

England, my England —

'Take and break us we are yours,

England, my own'

Life is good and joy runs high

Between English earth and sky

Death is death, but we shall die

To the Song on your bugles blown,

England—

To the stars on your bugles blown!'

## Song

*(To the tune of Wandering Willie.)*

HOME no more home to me, whither must I wander ?  
Hunger my driver, I go where I must  
Cold blows the winter wind over hill and heather ;  
Thick drives the rain, and my roof is in the dust  
Loved of wise men was the shade of my roof-tree,  
The true word of welcome was spoken in the door—  
Dear days of old, with the faces in the firelight,  
Kind folks of old, you come again no more

Home was home then, my dear, full of kindly faces,  
Home was home then, my dear, happy for the child  
Fire and the windows bright glittered on the moor-  
land,  
Song, tuneful song, built a palace in the wild  
Now, when day dawns on the brow of the moorland,  
Lone stands the house, and the chimney-stone is  
cold  
Lone let it stand, now the friends are all departed,  
The kind hearts, the true hearts, that loved the  
place of old.

Spring shall come, come again, calling up the moor-  
fowl,  
Spring shall bring the sun and rain, bring the bees  
and flowers,  
Red shall the heather bloom over hill and valley,  
Soft flow the stream through the even flowing hours,  
Fair the day shine as it shone on my childhood—  
Fair shine the day on the house with open door ;  
Birds come and cry there and twitter in the chimney—  
But I go for ever and come again no more

Shadows rise    The lark sings on.    The sun,  
 Closing his benediction,  
 Sinks, and the darkening air  
 Thrills with a sense of the triumphing night—  
 Night with her train of stars  
 And her great gift of sleep.

So be my passing!  
 My task accomphshed and the long day done,  
 My wages taken, and in my heart  
 Some late lark singing,  
 Let me be gathered to the quiet west,  
 The sundown splendid and serene,  
 Death

## ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

### Romance

I WILL make you brooches and toys for your delight  
 Of bird song at morning and star shine at night  
 I will make a palace fit for you and me,  
 Of green days in forests and blue days at sea.

I will make my kitchen, and you shall keep your room,  
 Where white flows the river and bright blows the  
     broom,

And you shall wash your linen and keep your body  
     white

In raintall at morning and dewfall at night

And this shall be for music when no one else is near,  
 The fine song for singing, the rare song to hear!  
 That only I remember, that only you admire,  
 Of the broad road that stretches and the roadside fire

And the bulrushes and reed-beds put off their fallow  
gray  
And burnt with cloudy crimson at dawning of the day

## MARGARET LOUISA WOODS

## The Mariners

THE mariners sleep by the sea  
The wild wind comes up from the sea,  
It wails round the tower, and it blows through the  
grasses,  
It scatters the sand o'er the graves where it passes  
And the sound and the scent of the sea

The white waves beat up from the shore,  
They beat on the church by the shore,  
They rush round the grave stones aslant to the lee-  
ward,  
And the wall and the mariners' graves lying seaward,  
That are banked with the stones from the shore

For the huge sea comes up in the storm,  
Like a beast from the lair of the storm,  
To claim with its ravenous leap and to mingle  
The mariners bones with the surf and the shingle  
That it rolls round the shore in the storm.

There is nothing beyond but the sky,  
But the sea and the slow-moving sky,  
Where a cloud from the grey lifts the gleam of its  
edges,  
Where the foam flashes white from the shouldering  
ridges,  
As they crowd on the uttermost sky.



## Requiem

UNDER the wide and starry sky  
Dig the grave and let me lie  
Glad did I live and gladly die,  
And I laid me down with a will

This be the verse you grave for me :  
*Here he lies where he longed to be ;*  
*Home is the sailor, home from sea,*  
*And the hunter home from the hill.*

## J L CUTHBERTSON

## The Australian Sunrise

THE Morning Star paled slowly, the Cross hung low  
to the sea,  
And down the shadowy reaches the tide came swirling  
free,  
The lustrous purple blackness of the soft Australian  
night  
Waned in the grey awakening that heralded the light,  
Still in the dying darkness, still in the forest dim  
The pearly dew of the dawning clung to each giant  
limb,  
Till the sun came up from ocean, red with the cold  
sea mist,  
And smote on the limestone ridges, and the shining  
tree-tops kissed,  
Then the fiery Scorpion vanished, the magpie's note  
was heard,  
And the wind in the she oak wavered, and the honey-  
suckles stirred,  
The airy golden vapour rose from the river breast,  
The kingfisher came darting out of his crannied nest,

He filled from the life of their motion  
Her nostrils with breath of the sea,  
And gave her afar in the ocean  
A citadel free

Her, never the fever mist shrouding,  
Nor drought of the desert may blight,  
Nor pall of dun smoke overclouding  
Vast cities of clamour and night  
But the voice of abundance of waters  
In valleys that bright rivers lave,  
Greets her children, the sons and the daughters,  
Of sunshine and wave

Lo! here where each league hath its fountains  
In isles of deep fern and tall pine,  
And breezes snow-cooled on the mountains,  
Or keen from the limitless brine,  
See men to the battlefield pressing  
To conquer one foe—the stern soil,  
Their kingship in labour expressing,  
Their lordship in toil

Though young, they are heirs of the ages,  
Though few, they are freemen and peers;  
Plain workers—yet sure of the wages  
Slow Destiny pays with the years  
Though least they, and latest their nation,  
Yet this they have won without sword,  
That Woman with Man shall have station,  
And Labour be lord

The winds of the sea and high heaven  
Speed pure to her, kissed by the foam.  
The steeds of her ocean undriven,  
Unbitted and riderless roam,

The mariners sleep by the sea  
Far away there's a shrine by the sea ;  
The pale women climb up the path to it slowly,  
To pray to Our Lady of Storms ere they wholly  
Despair of their men from the sea.

The children at play on the sand,  
Where once from the shell-broidered sand  
They would watch for the sails coming in from far  
places,  
Are forgetting the ships and forgetting the faces  
Lying here, lying hid in the sand

When at night there's a seething of surf,  
The grandames look out o'er the surf,  
They reckon their dead and their long years of sadness,  
And they shake their lean fists at the sea and its  
madness,  
And curse the white fangs of the surf.

But the mariners sleep by the sea  
They hear not the sound of the sea,  
Nor the hum from the church where the psalm is up-  
lifted,  
Nor the crying of birds that above them are drifted.  
The mariners sleep by the sea

WILLIAM PEMBER REEVES

New Zealand

God girt her about with the surges  
And winds of the masterless deep,  
Whose tumult uprouses and urges  
Quick billows to sparkle and leap.

O ye by wandering tempest sown  
    'Neath every alien star,  
Forget not whence the breath was blown  
    That wafted you afar !  
For ye are still her ancient seed  
    On younger soil let fall—  
Children of Britain's island-breed  
To whom the mother in her need  
    Perchance may one day call

## SIR RENNELL RODD

## Hellas

It is not only that the sun  
    Loves best these southern lands,  
It is not for the trophies won  
    Of old by hero hands,  
That nature wreathed in softer smiles  
    Was here the bride of art  
A closer kinship claims these isles,  
    The love-land of the heart  
It is because the poet's dream  
    Still haunts each happy vale,  
That peopled every grove and stream  
    To fit his fairy tale

There may be greener vales and hills  
    Less bare to shelter man,  
But still they want the naiad rills,  
    And miss the pipe of Pan  
There may be other isles as fair  
    And summer seas as blue,

And clear from her lamp newly lighted  
Shall stream o'er the billows upcurled  
A light as of wrongs at length righted,  
Of Hope to the world.

## SIR WILLIAM WATSON

## Song

APRIL, April,  
Laugh thy girlish laughter ;  
Then, the moment after,  
Weep thy girlish tears !  
April, that mine ears  
Like a lover greetest,  
If I tell thee, sweetest,  
All my hopes and fears,  
April, April,  
Laugh thy golden laughter,  
But, the moment after,  
Weep thy golden tears !

## England and her Colonies

SHE stands, a thousand-wintered tree,  
By countless morns unpearled,  
Her broad roots coil beneath the sea,  
Her branches sweep the world,  
Her seeds, by careless winds conveyed,  
Clothe the remotest strand  
With forests from her scatterings made,  
New nations fostered in her shade,  
And linking land with land

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 Weep thy golden tears!

## England and her Colonies

SHE stands, a thousand-wintered tree,  
 By countless morns unpearled,  
 Her broad roots coil beneath the sea,  
 Her branches sweep the world,  
 Her seeds by careless winds conveyed,  
 Clothe the remotest strand  
 With forests from her scatterings made,  
 New nations fostered in her shade,  
 And linking land with land

O ye by wandering tempest sown  
Neath every alien star,  
Forget not whence the breath was blown  
That wafted you afar!  
For ye are still her ancient seed  
On younger soil let fall—  
Children of Britain's island breed  
To whom the mother in her need  
Perchance may one day call

## SIR RENNELL RODD

## Hellas

It is not only that the sun  
Loves best these southern lands,  
It is not for the trophies won  
Of old by hero hands  
That nature wreathed in softer smiles  
Was here the bride of art  
A closer kinship claims these isles,  
The love land of the heart  
It is because the poet's dream  
Still haunts each happy vale  
That peopled every grove and stream  
To fit his fairy tale

There may be greener vales and hills  
Less bare to shelter man  
But still they want the naiad rills,  
And miss the pipe of Pan  
There may be other isles as fair  
And summer seas as blue,



But then Odysseus touched not there,  
Nor Argo beached her crew,  
The Nereid haunted river shore,  
The Faun frequented dell,  
Possess me with their magic more  
Than sites where Cæsars fell  
And where the blooms of Zante blow  
Their incense to the waves,  
Where Ithaca's dark headlands show  
The legendary caves,  
Where in the deep of olive groves  
The summer hardly dies,  
Where fair Phæacia's sun brown maids  
Still keep their siren eyes,  
Where Chalcis strains with loving lips  
Towards the little bay,  
The strand that held the thousand ships,  
The Aulis of delay,  
Where Ceta's ridge of granite bars  
The gate Thermopylæ,  
Where huge Orion crowned with stars  
Looks down on Rhodope,  
Where once Apollo tended flocks  
On Phera's lofty plain,  
Where Peneus cleaves the stubborn rocks  
To find the outer main,  
Where Argos and Mycenæ sleep  
With all the buried wrong,  
And where Arcadian uplands keep  
The antique shepherd song,  
There is a spirit haunts the place  
All other lands must lack,  
A speaking voice, a living grace,  
That beckons fancy back

Dear isles and sea-indented shore,  
Till songs be no more sung,  
The singers that have gone before  
Will keep your lovers young  
And men will hymn your haunted skies,  
And seek your holy streams,  
Until the soul of music dies,  
And earth has done with dreams

## ALICE MEYNELL

## The Shepherdess

SHE walks—the lady of my delight—  
A shepherdess of sheep  
Her flocks are thoughts She keeps them white;  
She guards them from the steep,  
She feeds them on the fragrant height,  
And folds them in for sleep

She roams maternal hills and bright,  
Dark valleys safe and deep  
Into that tender breast at night  
The chastest stars may peep  
She walks—the lady of my delight—  
A shepherdess of sheep

She holds her little thoughts in sight,  
Though gay they run and leap  
She is so circumspect and right,  
She has her soul to keep  
She walks—the lady of my delight—  
A shepherdess of sheep

## FRANCIS THOMPSON

## To a Snowflake

WHAT heart could have thought you ?—  
Past our devisal  
(O filigree petal !)  
Fashioned so purely,  
Fragilely, surely,  
From what Paradisal  
Imagineless metal,  
Too costly for cost ?  
Who hammered you, wrought you,  
From argentine vapour ?—  
' God was my shaper  
Passing surmised,  
He hammered, He wrought me,  
From curled silver vapour,  
To lust of His mind —  
Thou couldst not have thought me !  
So purely, so palely,  
Timely, surely,  
Mightily, frailly,  
Insculped and embossed,  
With His hammer of wind,  
And His graver of frost '

## HENRY CHARLES BEECHING

## Prayers

God who created me  
Nimble and light of limb,  
In three elements free,  
To run, to ride, to swim—

Not when the sense is dim,  
But now from the heart of joy,  
I would remember Him—  
Take the thanks of a boy.

Jesu, King and Lord,  
Whose are my foes to fight,  
Gird me with Thy sword,  
Swift and sharp and bright  
Thee would I serve if I might,  
And conquer if I can,  
From day-dawn till night,  
Take the strength of a man.

Spirit of Love and Truth,  
Breathing in grosser clay  
The light and flame of youth,  
Delight of men in the fray,  
Wisdom in strength's decay,  
From pain, strife, wrong to be free,  
This best gift I pray,  
Take my spirit to thee.

### SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

#### The Song of the Bow

WHAT of the bow?  
The bow was made in England  
Of true wood, of yew wood,  
The wood of English bows;  
So men who are free  
Love the old yew-tree  
And the land where the yew-tree grows.

What of the cord ?

The cord was made in England  
 A rough cord, a tough cord,  
 A cord that bowmen love,  
     And so we will sing  
     Of the hempen string,  
 And the land where the cord was wove.

What of the shaft ?

The shaft was cut in England,  
 A long shaft, a strong shaft,  
 Barbed and trim and true,  
     So we'll drink all together  
     To the grey goose-feather,  
 And the land where the grey goose flew.

What of the mark ?

Ah, seek it not in England,  
 A bold mark, our old mark  
 Is waiting over-sea  
     When the strings harp in chorus,  
     And the lion flag is o'er us,  
 It is there that our mark will be.

What of the men ?

The men were bred in England,  
 The bowmen, the yeomen,  
 The lads of dale and fell  
     Here's to you—and to you !  
     To the hearts that are true,  
 And the land where the true hearts dwell !

## The Frontier Line

WHAT marks the frontier line ?

Thou man of India, say !  
Is it in the Himalayas sheer  
The rocks and valleys of Cashmere,  
Or Indus as she seeks the south  
From Attoch to the five fold mouth ?  
‘Not that ! Not that !’

Then answer me I pray  
What marks the frontier line ?

What marks the frontier line ?

Thou man of Burma speak !  
Is it traced from Mandalay,  
And down the marches of Cathay,  
From Bhamo south to Kiang mai,  
And where the buried rubies lie ?

Not that ! Not that !

Then tell me what I seek  
What marks the frontier line ?

What marks the frontier line ?

Thou Africander say !  
Is it shown by Zulu kraal,  
By Drakensberg or winding Vaal  
Or where the Shire waters seek  
Their outlet east at Mozambique ?  
‘Not that ! Not that !’

There is a surer way  
To mark the frontier line

What marks the frontier line ?

Thou man of Egypt tell !  
Is it traced on Luxor's sand  
Where Karnak's painted pillars stand,

Or where the river runs between  
The Ethiop and Bishareen ?

‘ Not that ! Not that !

By neither stream nor wall  
We mark the frontier line.

‘ But be it east or west,

One common sign we bear ;  
The tongue may change, the soil, the sky,  
But where your British brothers lie,  
The lonely cairn, the nameless grave,  
Still fringe the flowing Saxon wave,

‘Tis that ! ‘Tis where

They lie—the men who placed it there—  
That marks the frontier line ’

### SIR HENRY NEWBOLT

#### Vitali Lampada

THERE'S a breathless hush in the Close to-night—

Ten to make and the match to win—

A bumping pitch and a blinding light,

An hour to play and the last man in

And it's not for the sake of a ribboned coat,

Or the selfish hope of a season's fame,

But his Captain's hand on his shoulder smote—

‘ Play up ! play up ! and play the game ! ’

The sand of the desert is sodden red,—

Red with the wreck of a square that broke ;—

The Gatling's jammed and the Colonel dead,

And the regiment blind with dust and smoke.

The river of death has brimmed his banks,

And England's far, and Honour a name,

But the voice of a schoolboy rallies the ranks :

‘ Play up ! play up ! and play the game ! ’

This is the word that, year by year,  
While in her place the School is set,  
Every one of her sons must hear,  
And none that hears it dare forget  
This they all with a joyful mind  
Bear through life like a torch in flame,  
And falling fling to the host behind—  
'Play up! play up! and play the game!'

### He Fell among Thieves

'Ye have robbed,' said he, 'ye have slaughtered and  
made an end,  
Take your ill got plunder, and bury the dead  
What will ye more of your guest and sometime friend?'  
'Blood for our blood,' they said

He laughed 'If one may settle the score for five,  
I am ready, but let the reckoning stand till day  
I have loved the sunlight as dearly as any alive'  
You shall die at dawn,' said they

He flung his empty revolver down the slope,  
He climbed alone to the Eastward edge of the trees,  
All night long in a dream untroubled of hope  
He brooded, clasping his knees

He did not hear the monotonous roar that fills  
The ravine where the Yassin river sullenly flows,  
He did not see the starlight on the Laspur hills,  
Or the far Afghan snows

He saw the April noon on his books aglow,  
The wistaria trailing in at the window wide,  
He heard his father's voice from the terrace below  
Calling him down to ride



## GEORGE ESSEX EVANS

## The Women of the West

THEY left the vine-wreathed cottage and the mansion  
on the hill,

The houses in the busy streets where life is never still,  
The pleasures of the city, and the friends they cherished  
best

For love they faced the wilderness—the Women of the  
West

The roar, and rush, and fever of the city died away,  
And the old-time joys and faces—they were gone  
for many a day,

In their place the lurching coach-wheel, or the creaking  
bullock chains,

O'er the everlasting sameness of the never ending plains

In the slab built, zinc-roofed homestead of some lately  
taken run,

In the tent beside the bankment of a railway just  
begun,

In the huts on new selections, in the camps of man's  
unrest,

On the frontiers of the Nation, live the Women of the  
West

The red sun robs their beauty, and, in weariness and  
pain,

The slow years steal the nameless grace that never  
comes again,

And there are hours men cannot soothe, and words  
men cannot say—

The nearest woman's face may be a hundred miles  
away

The wide bush holds the secret of their longing and  
desires,  
When the white stars in reverence light their holy  
altar fires,  
And silence, like the touch of God, sinks deep into the  
breast—  
Perchance He hears and understands the Women of  
the West.

For them no trumpet sounds the call, no poet plies  
his arts—  
They only hear the beating of their gallant, loving  
hearts.  
But they have sung with silent lives the song all songs  
above—  
The holiness of sacrifice, the dignity of love

Well have we held our fathers' creed No call has  
passed us by.  
We faced and fought the wilderness, we sent our sons  
to die.  
And we have hearts to do and dare, and yet, o'er all  
the rest,  
The hearts that made the Nation were the Women  
of the West.

## RUDYARD KIPLING

### Puck's Song

SEE you the ferny ride that steals  
Into the oak-woods far?  
O that was whence they hewed the keels  
That rolled to Trafalgar.

And mark you where the ivy clings  
To Bayham's mouldering walls ?  
O there we cast the stout railings  
That stand around St Paul's

See you the dimpled track that runs  
All hollow through the wheat ?  
O that was where they hauled the guns  
That smote King Philip's fleet

(Out of the Weald, the secret Weald,  
Men sent in ancient years,  
The horse-shoes red at Flodden Field,  
The arrows at Portiers !)

See you our little mill that clacks,  
So busy by the brook ?  
She has ground her corn and paid her tax  
Ever since Domesday Book

See you our stilly woods of oak,  
And the dread ditch beside ?  
O that was where the Saxons broke  
On the day that Harold died

See you the windy levels spread  
About the gates of Rye ?  
O that was where the Northmen fled,  
When Alfred's ships came by

See you our pastures wide and lone,  
Where the red oxen browse ?  
O there was a City thronged and known,  
Ere London boasted a house

And see you, after rain, the trace  
Of mound and ditch and wall?  
O that was a Legion's camping-place,  
When Cæsar sailed from Gaul

And see you marks that show and fade,  
Like shadows on the Downs?  
O they are the lines the Flint Men made  
To guard their wondrous towns

Trackway and Camp and City lost,  
Salt Marsh where now is corn—  
Old Wars old Peace, old Arts that cease,  
And so was England born!

She is not any common Earth,  
Water or wood or air,  
But Merlin's Isle of Gramarye,  
Where you and I will fare!

## Recessional

*June 22, 1897*

God of our fathers, known of old—  
Lord of our far-flung battle-line—  
Beneath whose awful Hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies—  
The captains and the kings depart—  
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,  
An humble and a contrite heart  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

Far called our navies melt away—  
On dune and headland sinks the fire—  
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose  
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe—  
Such boastings as the Gentiles use,  
Or lesser breeds without the Law—  
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget!

For heathen heart that puts her trust  
In reeking tube and iron shard—  
All valiant dust that builds on dust,  
And guarding calls not Thee to guard—  
For frantic boast and foolish word,  
Thy Mercy on Thy People, Lord!

## WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS.

### The Lake Isle of Innisfree

I WILL arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made,  
Nine bean rows will I have there, a hive for the honey  
bee,  
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.  
And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes  
dropping slow,  
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the  
cricket sings,

There midnights all a glimmer, and noon a purple  
glow,

And evening full of the linnet's wings

I will arise and go now, for always night and day  
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the  
shore,

While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements  
gray,

I hear it in the deep heart's core.

## HENRY LAWSON

### The Wander-Light

*Oh, my ways are strange ways and new ways and old  
ways,*

*And deep ways and steep ways and high ways and low,  
I'm at home and at ease on a track that I know not,  
And restless and lost on a road that I know*

Then they heard the tent poles clatter,

And the fly in twain was torn—

'Twas the soiled rag of a tatter

Of the tent where I was born

Does it matter? Which is stranger—

Brick or stone or calico?—

There was One born in a manger

Nineteen hundred years ago

For my beds were camp beds and tramp beds and damp  
beds,

And my beds were dry beds on drought-stricken  
ground,

Hard beds and soft beds, and wide beds and narrow—

For my beds were strange beds the wide world round.

And the old hag seemed to ponder  
With her grey head nodding slow—  
' He will dream, and he will wander  
Where but few would think to go.  
He will flee the haunts of tailors,  
He will cross the ocean wide,  
For his fathers they were sailors—  
All on his good father's side '

I rest not, 'tis best not, the world is a wide one—  
And, caged for a moment, I pace to and fro  
I see things and dree things and plan while I'm sleep-  
ing,  
I wander for ever and dream as I go

And the old hag she was troubled  
As she bent above the bed,  
' He will dream things and he'll see things  
Come true when he is dead  
He will see things all too plainly,  
And his fellows will deride,  
For his mothers they were gipsies—  
All on his good mother's side '

And my dreams are strange dreams, are day dreams,  
are grey dreams,  
And my dreams are wild dreams, and old dreams and  
new,  
They haunt me and daunt me with fears of the morrow—  
My brothers they doubt me—but my dreams come  
true.

## JOHN OXENHAM

From 'A Little Te Deum of the Commonplace'  
 For those first tiny, prayerful-folded hands  
 That pierce the winter's crust, and softly bring  
 Life out of death, the endless mystery,—  
 For all the first sweet flushings of the Spring;  
 The greening earth, the tender heavenly blue;  
 The rich brown furrows gaping for the seed,  
 For all Thy grace in bursting bud and leaf,—  
 The bridal sweetness of the orchard trees,  
 Rose-tender in their coming fruitfulness,  
 The fragrant snow-drifts flung upon the breeze;  
 The grace and glory of the fruitless flowers,  
 Ambrosial beauty their reward and ours,  
 For hedgerows sweet with hawthorn and wildrose  
 For meadows spread with gold and gemmed with  
 stars,  
 For every tint of every tiniest flower;  
 For every daisy smiling to the sun,  
 For every bird that builds in joyous hope;  
 For every lamb that frisks beside its dam,  
 For every leaf that rustles in the wind,  
 For spring poplar, and for spreading oak,  
 For queenly birch, and lofty swaying elm;  
 For the great cedars benedictory grace,  
 For earth's ten thousand fragrant incenses,—  
 Sweet altar gifts from leaf and fruit and flower;  
 For every wondrous thing that greens and grows;  
 For widespread cornlands,—billowing golden seas,  
 For rippling stream, and white laced waterfall,  
 For purpling mountains lakes like silver shields;  
 For white piled clouds that float against the blue;  
 For tender green of far off upland slopes,  
 For fringing forests and far gleaming spires;



For those white peaks, serene and grand and still,  
 For that deep sea—a shallow to Thy love,  
 For round green hills, earth's full benignant breasts,  
 For sun chased shadows flitting o'er the plain,  
 For gleam and gloom, for all life's counterchange,  
 For hope that quickens under darkening skies,  
 For all we see, for all that underhes,—

*We thank Thee, Lord!*

## WILLIAM HENRY DAVIES

### Songs of Joy

SING out, my Soul, thy songs of joy,  
 Such as a happy bird will sing  
 Beneath the Rainbow's lovely arch  
 In early spring

Think not of Death in thy young days:  
 —Why shouldst thou that grim tyrant fear?  
 And fear him not when thou art old,  
 And he is near

Strive not for gold, for greedy fools  
 Measure themselves by poor men never,  
 Their standard, still being richer men,  
 Makes them poor ever

Train up thy mind to feel content  
 What matters then how low thy store?  
 What we enjoy, and not possess,  
 Makes rich or poor

Filled with sweet thought, then happy I  
 Take not my state from others' eyes,  
 What's in my mind—not on my flesh  
 Or theirs—I prize

Sing, happy Soul, thy songs of joy,  
Such as a Brook sings in the wood,  
That all night has been strengthened by  
Heaven's purer flood.

## WALTER DE LA MARE

## The Scarecrow

ALL winter through I bow my head  
Beneath the driving rain,  
The North Wind powders me with snow  
And blows me black again,  
At midnight under a maze of stars  
I flame with glittering rime,  
And stand, above the stubble, stiff  
As mail at morning-prime  
But when that child called Spring, and all  
His host of children, come,  
Scattering their buds and dew upon  
These acres of my home,  
Some rapture in my rags awakes;  
I lift void eyes and scan  
The skies for crows, those ravening foes  
Of my strange master, Man  
I watch him striding lank behind  
His clashing team, and know  
Soon will the wheat swish body high  
Where once lay sterile snow,  
Soon shall I gaze across a sea  
Of sunbegotten grain,  
Which my unflinching watch hath sealed  
For harvest once again.

## JOHN McCRAE

## In Flanders fields

IN Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place, and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below

We are the Dead Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch, he yours to hold it high  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

## LAUCHLAN MACLEAN WATT

## The Grey Mother

Lo, how they come to me,  
Long through the night I call them,—  
Ah, how they turn to me

East and South my children scatter,  
North and West the world they wander,

Yet they come back to me,  
Come, with their brave hearts beating,  
Longing to die for me,

Me, the grey, old, weary mother,  
Throned amid the northern waters,

Where they have died for me,  
Died with their songs around me,  
Girding my shores for me

Narrow was my dwelling for them,  
Homes they builded o'er the ocean,

Yet they leave all for me,  
Hearing their mother calling,  
Bringing their lives for me.

Up from South Seas swiftly sailing,  
Out from under stars I know not,

Come they to fight for me,  
Sons of the sons I nurtured ;  
God keep them safe for me !

Long ago their fathers saved me,  
Died for me among the heather,

Now they come back to me,  
Come, in their children's children--  
Brave of the brave for me

In the wilds and waves they slumber,  
Deep they slumber in the deserts,

Rise they from graves for me,  
Graves where they lay forgotten,  
Shades of the brave for me . .

Yet my soul is veiled in sadness,  
For I see them fall and perish,

Strewing the hills for me,  
Claiming the world in dying,  
Bought with their blood for me

Hear the grey, old, Northern mother,  
Blessing now her dying children,—

God keep you safe for me,  
Christ watch you in your sleeping  
Where ye have died for me

And when God's own slogan soundeth,  
All the dead world's dust awaking,

Ah, will ye look for me?  
Bravely we'll stand together—  
I and my sons with me

### PERCEVAL GIBBON

#### The Veldt

CAST the window wider, sonny,  
Let me see the veldt,  
Rolling grandly to the sunset,  
Where the mountains melt,  
With the sharp horizon round it,  
Like a silver belt

Years and years I've trekked across it,  
Ridden back and fore,  
Till the silence and the glamour  
Ruled me to the core  
No man ever knew it better,  
None could love it more

There's a balm for crippled spirits  
In the open view,  
Running from your very footsteps  
Out into the blue,  
Like a waggon-track to heaven,  
Straight 'twixt God and you.

There's a magic, soul-compelling,  
In the boundless space,  
And it grows upon you, sonny,  
Like a woman's face—  
Passionate and pale and tender,  
With a marble grace

There's the sum of all religion  
In its mightiness,  
Wingèd truths, beyond your doubting,  
Close about you press  
God is greater in the open—  
Little man is less

There's a voice pervades its stillness,  
Wonderful and clear,  
Tongues of prophets and of angels,  
Whispering far and near,  
Speak an everlasting gospel  
To the spirit's ear

There's a sense you gather, sonny,  
In the open air,  
Shift your burden ere it breaks you :  
God will take His share  
Keep your end up for your own sake ;  
All the rest's His care

There's a spot I know of, sonny,  
Yonder by the stream,  
Bushes handy for the fire,  
Water for the team  
By the old home outspan, sonny,  
Let me lie and dream.

### MARJORIE L C PICKTHALL

#### Swallow Song

O little hearts, beat home, beat home  
Here is no place to rest,  
Night darkens on the falling foam  
And on the fading west  
O little wings, beat home, beat home,  
Love may no longer roam

Oh, Love has touched the fields of wheat,  
And Love has crowned the corn,  
And we must follow Love's white feet  
Through all the ways of morn  
Through all the silver roads of air  
We pass and have no care

The silver roads of Love are wide,  
O winds that turn, O stars that guide  
Sweet are the ways that Love hath trod  
Through the clear skies that reach to God,  
But in the cliff grass Love builds deep  
A place where wandering wings may sleep.

## PATRICK R CHALMERS

## Roundabouts and Swings

It was early last September nigh to Framlin'am-on-Sea,  
 An' 'twas Fair day come to morrow, an' the time was  
 after tea,  
 An' I met a painted caravan a-down a dusty lane,  
 A Pharaoh with his waggons comin' jolt an' creak an'  
 strain,  
 A cheery cove an' sunburnt, bold o' eye and wrinkled  
 up,  
 An' beside 'im on the splashboard sat a brindled tarrier  
 pup,  
 An' a lurcher wise as Solomon an' lean as fiddle strings  
 Was joggin' in the dust along 'is roundabouts and  
 swings.

'Goo'-day,' said 'e, 'Goo'-day,' said I, 'an' 'ow  
 d you find things go,  
 An' what's the chance o' millions when you runs a  
 travellin' show?'  
 'I find,' said 'e, 'things very much as 'ow I've always  
 found,  
 For mostly they goes up and down or else goes round  
 and round'  
 Said 'e, 'The job's the very spit o' what it always  
 were,  
 It's bread and bacon mostly when the dog don't catch  
 a 'ore,  
 But lookin' at it broad, an' while it ain't no merchant  
 king s,  
 What's lost upon the roundabouts we pulls up on the  
 swings!'



Merry, merry England has kissed the lips of June  
All the wings of fairyland were here beneath the moon,  
Like a flight of rose leaves fluttering in a mist  
Of opal and ruby and pearl and amethyst

Merry, merry England is waking as of old,  
With eyes of blither hazel and hair of brighter gold.  
For Robin Hood is here again beneath the bursting  
spray

In Sherwood, in Sherwood, about the break of day

Love is in the greenwood building him a house  
Of wild rose and hawthorn and honeysuckle boughs  
Love is in the greenwood, dawn is in the skies,  
And Marian is waiting with a glory in her eyes

Hark! The dazzled laverock climbs the golden steep!  
Marian is waiting is Robin Hood asleep?  
Round the fairy grass rings frolic elf and fay,  
In Sherwood, in Sherwood, about the break of day

Oberon, Oberon, rake away the gold,  
Rake away the red leaves, roll away the mould,  
Rake away the gold leaves, roll away the red,  
And wake Will Scarlett from his leafy forest bed

Friar Tuck and Little John are riding down together  
With quarter staff and drinking can and grey goose  
feather

The dead are coming back again, the years are rolled  
away

In Sherwood, in Sherwood, about the break of day

Softly over Sherwood the south wind blows  
All the heart of England hid in every rose  
Hears across the greenwood the sunny whisper leap,  
Sherwood in the red dawn, is Robin Hood asleep?

Proudly here, with a loftier pinnacled splendour,  
Throned in his northern Athens, what spells remain  
Still on the marble lips of the Wizard, and render  
Silent the gazer on glory without a stain!  
Here and here, do we whisper, with hearts more  
tender,  
Tusitala wandered thro' mist and rain,  
Rainbow-eyed and frail and gallant and slender,  
Dreaming of pirate isles in a jewelled main.

Up the Canongate climbeth, cleft asunder  
Raggedly here, with a glimpse of the distant sea  
Flashed through a crumbling alley, a glimpse of  
wonder  
Nay, for the City is throned on Eternity!  
Hark! from the soaring castle a cannon's thunder  
Closeth an hour for the world and an æon for me,  
Gazing at last from the martial heights whereunder  
Deathless memories roll to an ageless sea.

### JOHN MASEFIELD

#### Cargoes

QUINQUIREME of Nineveh from distant Ophir  
Rowing home to haven in sunny Palestine,  
With a cargo of ivory,  
And apes and peacocks,  
Sandalwood, cedarwood, and sweet white wine

Stately Spanish galleon coming from the Isthmus  
Dipping through the Tropics by the palm green shores,  
With a cargo of diamonds,  
Emeralds, amethysts,  
Topazes, and cinnamon, and gold moidores

## RUPERT BROOKE

## The Soldier

If I should die, think only this of me:

That there's some corner of a foreign field  
That is for ever England There shall be

In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;  
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,  
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,  
A body of England's, breathing English air,  
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,

A pulse in the eternal mind, no less

Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England  
given;

Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;

And laughter, learnt of friends, and gentleness,

In hearts at peace, under an English heaven

## JOHN DRINKWATER

## A Prayer

LORD, not for light in darkness do we pray,

Not that the veil be lifted from our eyes,

Nor that the slow ascension of our day

Be otherwise

Not for a clearer vision of the things

Whereof the fashioning shall make us great,

Not for the remission of the peril and stings

Of time and fate

Not for a fuller knowledge of the end

Whereto we travel, bruised yet unafraid,

Nor that the little healing that we lend

Shall be repaid

## BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON AUTHORS

**Arnold, Matthew, 1822-1888.** Son of the famous schoolmaster Dr. Arnold, of Rugby. Educated at Winchester, Rugby and Balliol College Oxford. Private Secretary to Lord Lansdowne, and afterwards an Inspector of Schools. For ten years Professor of Poetry at Oxford. Travelled on the Continent to report upon Education in France, Holland and Germany. Wrote several volumes of literary criticism in excellent prose. Among his best known poems are *Sohrab and Rustum*, *Balder Dead*, *The Forsaken Merman*, *Morality*, *The Scholar Gipsy*, *Rugby Chapel* and several *Sonnets*.

**Beeching, Henry Charles, 1859-1919.** Educated at the City of London School and Balliol College Oxford. Became Canon of Westminster, and later Dean of Norwich. Published much literary work both in prose and in verse, including *Seven Sermons to Schoolboys In a Garden* and other Poems, and *Two Lectures on Poetry*, and edited various editions of the poets.

**Blake, William, 1757-1827.** Son of a London tradesman. Became an engraver and printer, and wrote poems which he printed and illustrated himself. Chiefly remembered for his *Songs of Innocence* and *Songs of Experiences*.

**Bridges, Robert, 1844-1930.** Educated at Eton and Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Studied medicine after leaving Oxford. Became Poet Laureate in 1913. Published several volumes of poems and a number of plays. His last and greatest poem, *The Testament of Beauty*, was published on his eighty fifth birthday.

**Brooke, Rupert, 1887-1915.** Educated at Rugby and King's College, Cambridge. Joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve at the outbreak of the Great War. Served at Antwerp. Died of fever on his way to the Dardanelles and was buried at Smyrna.

**Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, 1806-1861.** Born in Herefordshire. Published, when nineteen, *An Essay on Mind* and other poems and later a translation of the *Prometheus Bound* of Æschylus. Married the poet Robert Browning and lived in Italy till her death. After her marriage she published several poems including *Casa Guidi*, *Windows* and her chief work *Aurora Leigh* a novel in verse, and *Sonnets from the Portuguese*, which in spite of their title are her own original poems.

- Browning, Robert, 1812-1889.** Published *Paracelsus* at the age of twenty three and not long afterwards *Sordello*. Married Elizabeth Barrett, the poetess, and made his home in Florence till the death of his wife in 1861. Among his longer poems are *The Ring and the Book* and *Asolando*, the latter published on the day of his death. Is best known by his shorter poems, which include besides several included in this volume, *A Grammarian's Funeral*, *The Lost Leader*, and *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*. Was buried in Westminster Abbey.
- Bryant, William Cullen, 1794-1878.** Born in Massachusetts, U.S.A. Published his first poem at the age of thirteen. Studied law and later took up journalism, and travelled in Europe and the West Indies. His *Thanatopsis*, published in 1817, surpassed anything previously written by an American.
- Burns, Robert, 1759-1796.** Son of an Ayrshire farmer, worked on his father's farm. Determined to emigrate to the West Indies at the age of twenty seven, but changed his mind when his first volume of poems proved a great success. Lived for some time in Edinburgh, then took to farming, and later held a post in the excise. Among his many poems some of the best known are *The Collier's Saturday Night*, *Hallowe'en*, *To a Mountain Daisy*, *Ye Banks and Braes*, etc.
- Byron, Lord (George Noel Gordon), 1788-1824.** Born in London. At the age of ten became Lord Byron by the death of his grand uncle. Educated at Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge. Travelled a great deal on the Continent. Lived for some time in Switzerland, and afterwards in Italy. In 1823 sailed for Greece to fight for the Greeks in their War of Independence. Seized with fever and died at Missolonghi. Was buried at Hocknall near Newstead. Among his chief works were *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage* and several dramas and tales in verse including *Manfred*, *Cain*, *The Bride of Abydos* and *The Corsair*. Of his shorter poems some of the best known are *The Prisoner of Chillon*, *Napoleon's Farewell* and *The Destruction of Sennacherib*.
- Campbell, Thomas, 1777-1844.** Born in Glasgow, and educated in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Travelled on the Continent, and then settled in London. Engaged in literary work and became editor of the *New Monthly*. Died at Boulogne, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. Among his longer poems are *The Pleasures of Hope*, *Gertrude of Wyoming* and *Theodoric*, but he is better known by his shorter poems including, besides those in this volume, *Lord Ullan's Daughter*.
- Campion, Thomas, died 1619.** A popular London physician of Queen Elizabeth's time, and a poet and musician. He wrote some very beautiful verse, a book of *Observations on English Poets* and some *Books of Ayres*, or madrigals, many of which are sung to day.
- Chalmers, Patrick R.** Born 1872, and educated at Rugby. His publications include *A Peck o' Awa* and *Green Days and Blue Days*, two volumes of verse.

**Clough, Arthur Hugh, 1819-1861** Born at Liverpool, the son of a cotton merchant his early life was spent in South Carolina where his father emigrated Educated at Rugby and Balliol College, Oxford Travelled much on the Continent, and was a friend of Emerson and Carlyle Died at Florence Is best known by his shorter poems, of which several are included in this volume

**Coleridge, Samuel Taylor, 1772-1834.** Son of the Vicar at Ottery St Mary, Devonshire Educated at Christ's Hospital and Jesus College, Cambridge Became a friend of Southey with whose Republican ideas he sympathized and engaged in various literary pursuits Met Wordsworth and in 1798 published with him *Lyrical Ballads* which contained his *Ancient Mariner* Visited Germany, lived for some time at Keswick, and later settled in London, where he lectured on Shakespeare Was later addicted to taking opium, which impaired his faculties and wrecked his life Wrote *Christabel*, *Kubla Khan*, translations from Schiller, and many other poems, besides several works in prose

**Collins, William, 1721-1759.** Born at Chichester Educated at Winchester and Magdalen College, Oxford His fame rests chiefly upon his *Odes*, but none of his work was appreciated till after his death

**Cory, William (Johnson), 1823-1892.** Educated at Eton and King's College Cambridge Was a master at Eton Changed his name from Johnson to Cory Published *Ionica* and other volumes of poems

**Cowper, William, 1731-1800.** Son of a clergyman of Great Berkhampstead. Educated at Westminster School, and then articled to the law Suffered from fits of nervous melancholy and was for a time in a lunatic asylum Assisted the Rev John Newton Curate of Olney, Bucks in the composition of the *Olney Hymns* Wrote *The Tash*, *Table Talk* and a number of shorter poems, of which *Boadicea*, *The Dying History of John Gipton*, *Epitaph on a Hare*, *On the Receipt of my Mother's Picture*, are among the best known

**Crabbe, George, 1754-1832.** Born at Aldeburgh, Suffolk, son of a "salt master" and warehouse keeper Apprenticed for a time to a surgeon, and then went to London to try his fortune in literature Secured the patronage of Burke from which time his success was assured Was ordained in 1781, and held many livings during the rest of his life His works include *The Village*, *The Parish Register*, *Tales and Tales of the Hall* The present extract is one which was particularly admired by Tennyson

**Crashaw, Richard, 1613 (?) - 1649.** Son of a Puritan poet and clergyman Educated at Charterhouse and Pembroke Hall Cambridge Became a Roman Catholic and went to France and Italy, where he died His *Steps to the Temple* was published in 1646

**Cuthbertson, J. L., 1851-1910.** An Australian poet educated at Geelong Grammar School This poem first appeared in *The Geelong Grammar School Quarterly*

- Davies, William Henry.** Born 1870, at Newport Monmouthshire. Has spent much time tramping in England and America making the journeys by sea on cattle boats. Became a poet at the age of thirty-four. His volumes of poems include *Nature Poems*, *Songs of Joy*, *The Song of Life* and his prose works *The Autobiography of a Super Tramp*, *A Poet's Pilgrimage*, etc.
- De la Mare, Walter.** Born 1873. Author of many works in poetry and prose, including *Songs of Childhood*, *The Listeners and Other Poems*, *Peacock Pie*, etc.
- Dobell, Sydney Thompson, 1824-1874.** Born at Cranbrook, Kent, son of a wine merchant. Spent all his life in Gloucestershire, and suffered from ill health. His chief works are *The Roman*, a dramatic poem, *Balder*, and *Sonnets on the (Crimean) War*.
- Dobson, Henry Austin, 1840-1921.** Born at Plymouth. Educated at Beaumaris Grammar School and at Strasburg. Entered the Board of Trade in 1856, and rose to be its Principal. Published several volumes of poems biographies of Fielding, Goldsmith, Walpole, Hogarth, etc., and contributed many articles to magazines and reviews.
- Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan.** Born 1859, at Edinburgh of a celebrated artistic family. Educated at Stonyhurst and Edinburgh University. Entered the medical profession travelled in the Arctic regions and in West Africa, and became famous as the creator of *Sherlock Holmes*. Has written many popular novels including *The Sign of Four*, *The White Company*, *The Refugees*, and *The Exploits of Brigadier Gerard*. The author of several plays and a volume of poems entitled *Songs of Action*. Wrote an authoritative account of *The Great Boer War* translated into twelve foreign languages, and a *History of the British Campaign in France and Flanders in the Great War*.
- Doyle, Sir Francis Hastings, 1810-1838.** Born at Nunappleton, near Tadcaster Yorks. Educated at Eton and Christ Church Oxford. Practised as a barrister. Elected Professor of Poetry at Oxford 1867. His well known poems include *Balaclava* and the two contained in this volume.
- Drayton, Michael, 1563-1631.** Born at Hartshill Warwickshire. Wrote hymns and sacred songs *The Shepherd's Garland*, *The Barons' Wars*, and *Polymbion*, the last named a poetical description of England in nearly 16 000 lines with maps and notes on antiquities. Was buried in Westminster Abbey.
- Drinkwater, John.** Born 1882. Educated at Oxford High School. Besides his poems and numerous contributions to magazines and reviews, has written many plays, of which *Abraham Lincoln*, *Mary Stuart* and *Cromwell* have struck an original note.
- Dryden, John, 1631-1700.** Born at Aldwinkle Northamptonshire. Educated at Westminster School and Trinity College Cambridge. Lived mostly at Cambridge and in London. Poet Laureate 1670-1689. Wrote many plays but is most famous for his political

satires such as *Absalom and Achitophel*, his *Fables, Ancient and Modern* and his translations of Virgil and Juvenal

Dyer, Sir Edward, *circa* 1550-1607. Born at Sharpham Park, Somerset Ambassador to Denmark during part of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and a friend of Sir Philip Sidney His best poem is that included in this volume

Fitzgerald, Edward, 1809-1883. Born and lived all his life in Suffolk Educated at Bury St Edmunds and Trinity College, Cambridge A friend of Carlyle, Thackeray and Tennyson Famous for his translation of Omar Khayyám, the Persian astronomer poet of the eleventh century

Gibbon, Perceval, 1879-1926. Born at Trelech, Carmarthenshire Entered the merchant service, and travelled as journalist and war correspondent in Europe, America and Africa Published novels and stories, and *African Items*, a book of poems

Goldsmith, Oliver, 1728-1774. Son of an Irish clergyman Educated at home and at Trinity College Dublin Studied medicine at Edinburgh and Leyden Travelled on foot on the Continent Returned to London and took up literary work Lived for a time in great poverty Wrote essays, published collectively under the title of *The Citizens of the World*, a novel *The Vicar of Wakefield*, a number of poems including *The Traveller* and *The Deserted Village*, and the two plays, *The Good natured Man* and *She Stoops to Conquer*

Gordon, Adam Lindsay, 1833-1870 Born at Fayal in the Azores Educated at Cheltenham and Woolwich Went to Australia at the age of twenty Joined the Australian Mounted Police, and became a famous steeplechaser Committed suicide His three volumes of verse contain some spirited ballads of horsemanship and the turf

Gray, Thomas, 1716-1771. Born in London Educated at Eton and Cambridge Friend of Horace Walpole, with whom he travelled in France and Italy Refused the poet laureateship 1757 Became Professor of History at Cambridge Remembered chiefly for his *Elegy in a Country Churchyard* *Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College* and *The Bard*

Hardy, Thomas, 1840-1928. Trained as an architect Intended to become an art critic, but the publication of *Desperate Remedies* in 1871 shaped his destiny otherwise Although famous chiefly as a novelist he is almost equally great as a poet One of his most famous works is the epic-drama, *The Dynasts*

Harte, Francis Bret, 1839-1902 Born in Albany, N.Y., but went to California in 1854 Here his varied career as miner, teacher and journalist gave him material for his famous stories and poems Founded *The Overland Monthly* In 1880 came to Glasgow as U.S. Consul and five years later went to London, where he remained until his death

Henley, William Ernest, 1849-1903. Born at Gloucester Collaborated with R. L. Stevenson in several plays Edited *The Magazine of Art* and other journals His best known poems are contained in *Aspects of Rain* and *London Voluntary*



- Herbert, George, 1593-1633** Educated at Westminster and Cambridge Orator for the University 1619 Frequenting the Court of James I but his friendship with Nicholas Ferrar drew him towards religion Took Orders and became Vicar of Bemerton near Salisbury *The Temple* contains some of the purest sacred poems in the English language
- Herrick, Robert, 1591-1634** Son of a London silversmith Educated at Cambridge and became a clergyman with a living in Devonshire Went to London in 1648 on being ejected from his benefice and published *Hasperides* a book of short poems many of them of great beauty
- Hogg, James, 1770-1835.** A Scottish shepherd born at Ettrick Hall Had very little education His first volume *Scottish Pastorals Poems and Songs* made him known to Sir Walter Scott Lived in Edinburgh in his later years and published other volumes of verse Known in literature as the 'Ettrick Shepherd'
- Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1809-1894** Born at Cambridge Mass Studied law then medicine and in 1847 became Professor of Anatomy at Harvard In 1857 became a contributor to *The Atlantic Monthly* in which appeared the famous *Autocrat of the Breakfast Table* embodying some of his best known poems Also published several volumes of verse
- Hood, Thomas, 1799-1845** Born in London Apprenticed to an engraver but early took to literature and became sub editor of *The London Magazine* Famous chiefly for single striking poems, such as *The Dream of Eugene Aram* *The Song of the Shirt* etc
- Howe, Julia Ward, 1819-1910.** Born in New York Eager advocate of the abolition of slavery *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* was sung by the armies during the Civil War, and by the American soldiers in France 1916-1918
- Hunt, James Henry Leigh, 1784-1859** Born at Southgate Educated at Christ's Hospital Became a lawyer's clerk Brought out *The Examiner*, a paper of pronounced radical views in which he labelled the Prince Regent Imprisoned for two years Continued the writing of his paper in prison and received his friends Shelley Byron and Keats On his release published his poem *The Story of Rimini* Many other writings followed but he owes his reputation chiefly to his skill as an essayist
- Jonson, Ben, 1573-1637** Poet and dramatist Educated at Westminster and was successively a bricklayer's apprentice, a soldier an actor and a dramatist Excelled in the writing of Court Masques Among his plays are *Volpone* *Every Man in his Humour* *The Silent Woman* and *The Alchemist* He may be said to have founded a new style in English comedy
- Keats, John, 1795-1821** Son of an inn servant born in London, apprenticed to a surgeon but making the acquaintance of Shelley and Leigh Hunt turned to literature Published *Endymion* in 1818, and two years later *Lamia, Isabella and Other Poems*, contain

ing perhaps the finest of his work Ill health drove him to Italy, and he died in Rome in 1821

**Kendall, Henry Clarence, 1841-1882** Poet of the Australian Bush Was for a time in the New South Wales public service His chief volumes of verse are *Leaves from an Australian Forest* and *Songs from the Mountains*

**Kingsley, Charles, 1819-1875.** Born near Dartmoor, the son of a clergyman Educated at King's College, London, and Cambridge Intended for the law, but took Orders and eventually became rector of Eversley Interested himself in politics and social reform His novels include *Westward Ho!* *Hyphatia* and *Hereward the Wake* Wrote also stories for children, e.g., *The Water Babies*, and many short poems, notably, *The Sands of Dee*, *The Three Fishers*, etc

**Kipling, Rudyard** Born 1865, at Bombay Educated at the United Service College, Westward Ho Became assistant editor in India of *Civil and Military Gazette* and *Pioneer* Travelled largely His chief prose works are *Plain Tales from the Hills* *Soldiers Three*, *The Light that Failed*, the two *Jungle Books*, *Kim* and *Puck of Pook's Hill* His verse includes the famous soldier songs *Barrack Room Ballads*, *Departmental Ditties*, *The Seven Seas* and *Fringes of the Fleet*

**Lang, Andrew, 1844-1912** Poet and critic Educated at Edinburgh Academy and St Andrews University Published several volumes of verse and works on history religion and folk lore Edited the *Blue, Green* and other *Fairy Books*

**Lawson, Henry Hertzberg.** Born 1867, near Grenfell N S W Went to London in 1900 but returned to Sydney three years later Has published many volumes in prose and verse which give admirable descriptions of various phases of Australian life

**Logan, John, 1748-1788.** Son of a Midlothian farmer Educated at Edinburgh University and took Orders Published *Sermons*, *Historical Lectures*, *Poems and Hymns*, and a drama called *Rimnaimede* His *Ode to a Cuckoo* has been called "the most beautiful lyric in our language"

**Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth, 1807-1882** Born at Portland, Maine, the son of a lawyer Became Professor of Modern Languages at Harvard His literary activity was great, and among his longer poems are *The Spanish Student*, *Evangeline*, *Hiawatha* and *The Courtship of Miles Standish* but he is probably known best for some of his short poems such as *The Psalm of Life*, *Excelsior*, etc

**Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891** Born at Cambridge, Mass., and educated at Harvard Began life as a lawyer but soon devoted himself entirely to literature Probably the greatest critical essayist America has produced Among my Books appeared in two series, in 1870 and 1876 He had considerable poetic power also, as witnessed by *The Biglow Papers*, *A Fable for Critics* and *The Vision of Sir Launfal*

**Macaulay, Thomas Babington, Lord, 1800-1859.** Born at Rothley Temple. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge and was called to the Bar. Entered Parliament and held several posts under Government. Possessed of an immense historical knowledge, he published his *History of England* and numerous *Essays*. *Lays of Ancient Rome* was published in 1842.

**MacCrae, John.** A Canadian. By profession a doctor in Montreal and lecturer at the University. Served in the Boer War and in the Great War, and died of wounds at Boulogne early in 1918.

**Mangan, James Clarence, 1803-1849.** Born at Dublin, the son of a small grocer. Became a lawyer's clerk and contributed poems to various Irish newspapers.

**Marlowe, Christopher, 1564-1593.** Born at Canterbury, the son of a shoemaker. Educated at King's School, Canterbury and at Benet's (Corpus Christi) College, Cambridge. His first play was *Tamburlaine* followed about 1583 by *Faustus*, but it was not until *Edward II* that Marlowe rose to the height of his power. Said to have collaborated with Shakespeare in *Henry VI* and possibly in *Titus Andronicus*, wrote also some short poems of which *Come Live With Me* and *be My Love* is the best known. Killed in a tavern brawl at Deptford.

**Marvell, Andrew, 1621-1678.** Born at Winestead, Yorkshire, the son of a clergyman. Educated at Cambridge. Became Latin Secretary to Milton in 1657. Was known in his own day as a keen political writer, but his fame now rests on his poems.

**Masefield, John.** Poet, playwright and novelist. Ran away to sea in his youth where his experiences are reflected in much of his work. His poems include *Salt Water Ballads*, *The Everlasting Mercy*, *The Daffodil Fields*, *Reynard the Fox* and *Right Royal* and among his finest plays are the tragedies of *Nan* and *Pompey the Great*.

**Meredith, George, 1828-1909.** Born at Portsmouth. Educated in Germany. Articled to the law, but soon deserted it for literature. One of the great novelists of modern times. His best work is generally held to be *Diana of the Crossways*. Published in addition several books of poems including *Poems of the English Roadside* and *Poems and Lyrics of the Joy of Earth*.

**Meynell, Alice.** Died 1932. Educated by her father the late T. J. Thompson, and spent much of her early life in Italy. Published many charming volumes of poems and essays.

**Milton, John, 1608-1674.** Born in London, the son of a scrivener. Educated at St. Paul's and Christ's College, Cambridge. Became Latin Secretary to the Council of State under Cromwell and wrote numerous political pamphlets. His first poem *On the Death of a Fair Infant* appeared as early as 1626. His earlier poems include *On the Morning of Christ's Nativity*, *L'Allegro*, *Il Penseroso* and *Lycidas*. Later in life came his great works *Paradise Lost* and *Paradise Regained* dictated to his daughters after he had become blind.

- Moore, Thomas, 1779-1852 Born in Dublin and educated at the University there Came to London and in 1800 published *Atacron* Seven years later *Irish Melodies* brought him to the zenith of his reputation Others of his well known poems are *Lalla Rookh* and *Odes and Epistles*
- Morris, William, 1834-1898 Son of a London merchant Educated at Marlborough and Oxford Articled to an architect but soon became absorbed in the designing and making of artistic wallpapers, printing etc in conjunction with Rossetti and Burne Jones Among his poems are *The Life and Death of Jason* *The Earthly Paradise* and *The Story of Sigurd the Volsung* Was a social reformer and gave Socialist lectures
- Newbolt, Sir Henry John Born in 1862, at Bilston Educated at Clifton College and Corpus Christi Oxford Called to the Bar in 1887 and became editor of the *Monthly Review* His chief works are *Mordred a Tragedy* *Admirals All* *The Island Race* *Songs of the Sea* *Songs of the Fleet* etc
- Noyes, Alfred Born 1880 Educated at Exeter College Oxford Has contributed numerous poems and papers on literary criticism to the *Spectator* *Blackwood* *Cornhill* etc and has published numerous volumes of verse chief among which are *Drake an English Epic* and *The Forchbearers*
- Oxenham, John Educated in Manchester Went into business but eventually deserted it for literature Has published many novels and numerous volumes of verse
- Poe, Edgar Allan, 1809-1849 Born in Boston Mass the son of an actor Left an orphan he was adopted by a Virginian gentleman who later sent him to the University Took to literature as a profession Became editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine* in which appeared many of his best stories His famous poem *The Raven* came out in 1845
- Pope, Alexander, 1688-1744 Son of a London linen draper Educated chiefly at home Said to have written the *Ode on Solitude* at the age of twelve His *Pastorals* were published in 1709 and three years later *The Rape of the Lock* placed him in the first rank Others of his works are *Essay on Criticism* *The Messiah* *Dunciad* *Essay on Man* and translations of the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*
- Raleigh, Sir Walter, 1552?-1618 Born in Devonshire and educated at Oxford Served as a volunteer in the Low Countries In 1578 set out on his first voyage of discovery Attracted the notice of Queen Elizabeth and advanced rapidly in favour Became famous as a naval commander against Spain Imprisoned in the Tower for conspiracy by James I he wrote his *History of the World* a fine specimen of Elizabethan prose Beheaded on Tower Hill in 1618
- Reeves William Pember Born 1857, at Canterbury N.Z. Educated in New Zealand and called to the Bar but turned to journalism High Commissioner for New Zealand 1905-1909 Has published various volumes historical political and poetical

**Rodd, Sir James Rennell.** Born 1858 Educated at Haneybury and Balliol College, Oxford Served in the Diplomatic Service and was Ambassador to Italy 1908-1919 Has published various historical works, and several volumes of verse

**Rossetti, Christina Georgina, 1830-1894.** Sister of D G Rossetti Born in London Began to write poems as a girl, some of which were published in the *Germ*, the Pre-Raphaelite magazine of which her brother was one of the founders Among her best known works are *Goblin Market*, *The Prince's Progress* and *A Pageant and other Poems*

**Scott, Sir Walter, 1771-1832.** Born at Edinburgh and educated at its High School and University Called to the Bar His great historical knowledge, supplemented by the tales and songs of the Borderland, gave him inexhaustible material for his novels and poems His *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border* appeared in 1802, *The Lay of the Last Minstrel*, *Marmion* and *The Lady of the Lake* added to his reputation. *Waverley* had begun the wonderful series of historical novels in 1805, to be followed by *Guy Rannering*, *Old Mortality*, *Ivanhoe*, *Kenilworth*, *The Talisman*, and many others His success was immense, but becoming involved in the bankruptcy of an Edinburgh publisher in 1826, he literally worked himself to death in an attempt to wipe out his debts

**Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616.** Born at Stratford on Avon Educated at the local Grammar School Went to London in his early twenties and became an actor, then a playwright and finally part owner of the Globe Theatre His first published piece was a poem *Venus and Adonis*, but between 1591 and 1612 he wrote no fewer than thirty-seven plays and over a hundred Sonnets In 1613 he retired to Stratford on Avon, but did not live long to enjoy his prosperity His plays are too well known to need enumeration

**Shelley, Percy Bysshe, 1792-1822** Born near Horsham Educated at Eton and Oxford Travelled a great deal and was a friend of Byron and Keats Went to Italy in 1813 Drowned at sea near Leghorn Among his chief poetic works are *Queen Mab*, *Prometheus Unbound* and *The Cenci* *Adonais* is a beautiful poem lamenting the death of Keats Of his shorter poems the best known are *To a Skylark* and *The Cloud*

**Shirley, James, 1596-1666.** "The last of the Elizabethan dramatists" Born in London Educated at both Oxford and Cambridge Fought as a Royalist in the Civil War Wrote numerous plays, none of considerable merit, and many poems

**Southey, Robert, 1774-1843** Born at Bristol, educated at Westminster and Oxford One of the "Lake Poets," the other two being Wordsworth and Coleridge Southey wrote an immense quantity of both prose and verse Of the former his *Life of Nelson* is by far the best known, and has been called "the best short biography in the English language" His verse is remembered chiefly by such pieces as *The Inchcape Rock* and *The Battle of Blenheim*

Spenser, Edmund, 1552?-1599. Born in London. Educated at Merchant Taylors and Cambridge. In 1578 became known to Leicester and Sidney, the latter of whom became his patron. *The Shepherd's Calendar* appeared in 1579. Lived in Ireland for some years and here wrote *The Faerie Queene*, on which his fame mainly rests. His richness of imagination and melodious beauty of expression have won him the title of "The poets' poet."

Stevenson, Robert Louis, 1850-1894. Born at Edinburgh. Educated at various schools and the University. Called to the Bar in 1875, but never practised, and devoted himself entirely to literature. Travelled in search of health, finally settling down in Samoa. His literary output was great, both as a novelist and an essayist, and he wrote also the delightful *Child's Garden of Verses*.

Suckling, Sir John, 1609-1642. Born at Whitton, educated at Cambridge. Became a favourite at Court, popular for his wit. Incurred the displeasure of the King and fled to the Continent. Said to have committed suicide at Paris. He produced four plays, but it is for his ballads and songs, many of which have a delightful grace of expression, that he is now remembered.

Swinburne, Algernon Charles, 1837-1909. Born in London and educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford. Friend of Landor, Rossetti and Meredith. The appearance of *Atalanta in Calydon* in 1865 put him at once into the first rank of poets. From that time he published an immense number of poems, critical essays, etc., chief among them being *Songs before Sunrise*, *Mary Stuart*, *Erechtheus* and *Rosamund, Queen of the Lombards*. He possessed a wonderful feeling for the beauty of words and excelled as a master of rhythm.

Tennyson, Alfred, Lord, 1809-1892. Born at Somersby, Lincolnshire, the son of a clergyman. Educated at Louth Grammar School and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he met Monckton Milnes, Alford and Arthur Hallam. In 1830 he published his *Poems*, chiefly *Lyrical*, which included *The Lady of Shalott* and *The May Queen*. This was followed by several other volumes which have made him famous. Became Poet Laureate on the death of Wordsworth. Created Baron Tennyson in 1883. Died at Aldworth, near Haslemere, Surrey, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. Among his longer poems are *Idylls of the King*, *The Princess*, *In Memoriam*, *Enoch Arden* and the *Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington*. Some of his best known shorter poems are *Sir Galahad*, *The Charge of the Light Brigade*, *The Revenge* and *The Defence of Lucknow*.

Thompson, Francis, 1859-1907. Educated at Ushaw College, and Owens College, Manchester. Published his first book of poems in 1893, *Sister Songs* followed two years later, and *New Poems* in 1897. *The Hound of Heaven* is perhaps the poem by which he is best known.

**Watson, Sir William.** Born 1858 Of an old Yorkshire family, father a Liverpool merchant His first publication was *The Prince's Quest* in 1880, and from that time onward his contribution to literature has been considerable Received knighthood in 1917

**Watt, Lauchlan MacLean,** Scottish minister Educated at Edinburgh University Chaplain to the Forces in France and Flanders, 1916-1917 Has published many volumes—religious, poetical, historical, etc

**Whitman, Walt,** 1819-1892 Born at Huntington Long Island N Y Started life in a printing office at the age of thirteen, and, passing from one employment to another, became in 1846, editor of the *Brooklyn Eagle*, until in 1855 appeared his great work, *Leaves of Grass* During the Civil War he acted as nurse in the Federal Army, an experience which found expression in *Drum Taps*, *The Wound Dresser* and *Specimen Days* His last years were spent in retirement in New Jersey *O Captain, my Captain* was composed on the death of Lincoln

**Whittier, John Greenleaf,** 1807-1892. Born in Haverhill, Mass., of a Quaker family Began to write verses at a very early age, and later took to journalism Was an active Abolitionist His chief poems, which show strongly the influence of Burns are *Snow bound*, *Ballads of New England* and *Barbara Frietchie*

**Wolfe, Charles,** 1791-1823. An Irish clergyman He is remembered for one poem only—*The Burial of Sir John Moore*, which was first published anonymously in 1817.

**Woods, Margaret Louisa.** Born 1856 Daughter of Dean Bradley Published her first volume *A Village Tragedy* in 1887, and has since become well known as a writer of verse

**Wordsworth, William,** 1770-1850 Born at Cockermouth Educated at Penrith and Cambridge Travelled abroad and was much influenced by the French Revolution Became intimate with Coleridge and Southey and finally settled down in the Lake District, devoting himself entirely to poetry He succeeded Southey as Poet Laureate in 1843 He is essentially the poet of nature and is at his best in single short poems such as *Daffodils* and *The Rainbow*, and in his many beautiful *Sonnets*

**Wotton, Sir Henry,** 1568-1639 Born near Maidstone, the son of a Kentish gentleman Educated at Winchester and Oxford Entered the Middle Temple Held various diplomatic appointments Wrote a considerable amount of prose, but it is for his verse that he is remembered, notably *The Happy Life* and *Ye Meaner Beauties of the Night*

**Yeats, William Butler.** Born 1865, in Dublin, educated Godolphin School Hammersmith First turned his mind to art but deserted it for literature Published *The Wanderings of Ossin* (1889) *Celtic Twilight* (1893) *Book of Irish Verse* (1895) He also edited the *Works of Blake* and has written several plays

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